

Ship 'carrying chemicals for Iran'

DUBAI (AP) — An Iran-bound ship believed to be carrying tons of chemical used to make deadly mustard gas docked in Dubai Saturday and unloaded unidentified cargo, shipping executives reported. The 5,000-ton West German-registered ship, which came from Bombay, India, was earlier identified by West Germany's ZDF television network as carrying thionyl chloride, a chemical that can be used to manufacture mustard gas. ZDF, quoting unidentified government sources in Bonn, said the cargo would be stopped before reaching Iran. But the shipping executives reported no moves to seize the freighter's cargo in Dubai. Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus, Saturday denied the ship was bound for Iran, and said the reports showed received U.S. hostility towards the republic. The Seacrest Finance docked in Dubai, a major transshipment point for Iran-bound cargo, as West German government prosecutors said they have opened a criminal probe into the Hechtman Chemical Products Co. of Düsseldorf, which has contracted to deliver 257 tons of thionyl chloride to Iran. The firm is run by an Iranian family.

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King honours distinguished students, urges national role

AMMAN (Petra) — Distinguished students at Jordanian universities were honoured Saturday by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor at a meeting held at the Royal Court.

Addressing the students, King Hussein expressed happiness over meeting with the "elite of Jordanian students and the vanguards of promising youths."

"Our hopes rest in your efforts and the Jordanian society looks to your endeavours to achieve their aspirations and objectives," King Hussein said.

King Hussein congratulated the students on their achieve-

ments and said they represented the country's future asset. "You ought to shoulder the responsibility in all fields and try to attain a better future for the Kingdom," the King said.

The King enquired about the students' future plans and urged them to build on the knowledge they have acquired.

The King distributed token gifts to the students.

Dr. Mohammad Hamdan, Yarmouk University president, made an address on behalf of his colleagues, the presidents of the University of Jordan, Jordan University of Science and Tech-

nology and Mu'ta University.

He expressed the universities' appreciation to the King for honouring the students and pledged continued efforts to turn out highly skilled Jordanians to serve their King and nation.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of the Royal Court Thounqan Hindawi, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, King Hussein's Private Advisor Amer Khammash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad.



QUEEN MEETS ARAB CHILDREN: Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday receives members of delegations participating in the ninth Arab Children's Congress at Al Nadiwa Palace. An Arab child delivered a speech on behalf of the delegations expressing gratitude for Queen Noor's great interest in Arab children's affairs. A Kuwaiti

girl recited a poem wishing His Majesty King Hussein, government and people progress and prosperity. Queen Noor accompanied the children to an evening musical concert performed by the Jordanian Armed Forces. (Photo by Yousef Al Allan).

Fire senior army officers, plan new peace drive in southern revolt

Sudan coup leaders tighten power grip

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Nearly 1,000 people marched through the capital Khartoum Saturday chanting support for the military leader, who ousted the civilian government the previous day, witnesses said.

As the 15-man junta consolidated power after its coup, the demonstrators marched from the centre of the Sudanese capital to the nearby headquarters of the armed forces.

The march in the sprawling capital, home to seven million people, was the first sign of popular support for the coup.

Witnesses said the demonstrators chanted slogans against ousted Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi and against sectarian rule, a reference to the Muslim Ansar and Khatmia sects.

The sects underpin Sudan's two biggest parties, Mahdi's Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) respectively, which have dominated politicians during the three spells of democratic rule in Sudan since independence in 1956.

A little-known army officer Brigadier Omar Hassan Al Bashir led Friday's coup, set up the 15-man Revolutionary Council to rule Africa's largest country, imposed a nationwide state of emergency, suspended the constitution and dissolved parliament and political parties.

Bashir said Saturday he plans to scrap all peace moves made by the ousted government to end the southern civil war and will take

approaches to the rebels.

Bashir told a meeting of senior government officials the peace overtures begun last month by Mahdi were "political machinations and not serious."

The brigadier, 44, led a military junta of 15 medium-ranking officers in the bloodless coup, the fourth military upheaval in Sudan's 33 years of independence.

Calling itself the Command Council of the National Salvation Revolution, the junta immediately assumed dictatorial powers, including a ban on dissent.

The council Saturday fired 28 army generals, including the commander-in-chief, Gen. Fat'hi Ahmad Ali, and the chief of staff, Gen. Babu Nimir, a strong supporter of Mahdi.

Khartoum remained under a nighttime curfew decreed after the coup, but the city appeared returning to normal Saturday despite tight security.

Hundreds of troops were seen on the streets, stopping and searching cars they considered suspect. Tanks and armoured cars were posted at key locations, including the presidential palace, army headquarters and bridges spanning the White Nile and Blue Nile that bisect the city.

Telex and telephone communications with Khartoum, cut immediately after the dawn coup, were restored Saturday. Khartoum airport remained closed to international traffic but was allowed to reopen for eight hours

Saturday for planes carrying pilgrims to Saudi Arabia.

Bashir criticised Mahdi's efforts to negotiate peace with southern rebels at a meeting of government undersecretaries. But he made clear that his government was committed to peace.

"Our primary goal is peace, and we (the army) are the people mostly suffering from war," he said. "I will enlist the help of all experts in the quest for peace."

The official Radio Omdurman interrupted its transmissions every few minutes to broadcast messages of support from military units for Bashir.

The coup leaders Friday issued decrees that suspended the constitution and shut down independent newspapers. They banned political parties, declared a national state of emergency and the indefinite nighttime curfew.

Bashir named himself prime minister, defence minister and armed forces commander.

Bashir's brother told Reuters in the United Arab Emirates that the 45-year-old army officer had no political ambition and would eventually step down.

But Western diplomats in Cairo said the junta appeared set to stay in power.

They pointed out that the coup leaders had made no mention of future elections in their pronouncements and, in the statement of State Radio Omdurman announcing the takeover, had harshly criticised the political parties.

Jordan voices optimism

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is confident that the Sudanese people and their new leadership would be able to attain the country's goals and aspirations through preserving national unity, restoring security and stability, as well as diverting capabilities towards reform and construction so as to serve the interests of the Sudanese people and enable them to serve their country and the Arab Nation, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said Saturday. The spokesman added that the Jordanian government was following the development in Sudan with great concern.

The diplomats said that according to the reports from Khartoum the number of people detained so far could run into hundreds. They included Mahdi, cabinet ministers and the commander-in-chief.

The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said in Addis Ababa it would not comment on the coup until Khartoum's new rulers made known their policy.

It said Thursday it was not likely to extend a unilateral ceasefire announced May 1 and which expired Friday, citing army attacks near the southern town of Juba.

The ceasefire brought about a de facto truce in the south, helping a United Nations' relief operation in the area pick up pace. The operation began in April to aid some 2.2 million people of whom the U.N. says 100,000 could die this year.

Nearly 250,000 southerners died of hunger and disease in 1988, according to the U.N.

Diplomats said the fate of those arrested in Khartoum could not be foreseen.

Dublin talks break down

DUBLIN (R) — Talks on forming a new Irish government broke down Saturday when the centre-right Progressive Democrats insisted on a coalition with caretaker Prime Minister Charles Haughey. Haughey, who had resigned Thursday after a snap election which left his Fianna Fail party worse off than before, has ruled out any coalition, suggesting a looser link-up instead. On Friday he put out feelers to the Progressive Democrats, who have the six seats needed to give him an overall majority, saying he wanted a "policy-based arrangement" with them. But the Progressive Democrats, formed three years ago by Haughey dissidents united to their loathing of his leadership, insisted in talks with the caretaker prime minister that coalition should be contemplated. Both parties confirmed in statements Saturday after the talks that coalition was the stumbling block. Forming a government has now become a race against time for Ireland. Parliament reconvenes Monday in a second attempt to break the unprecedented deadlock. Haughey made the biggest mistake of his career in calling an election that no one else wanted June 15. He ended with 77 seats for his Fianna Fail party in the 165-seat chamber. He has offered his arch enemies concessions on tax reform and health cuts, but has adamantly ruled out coalition.

13 wounded in occupied lands

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 13 Palestinians Saturday, including two women, in clashes throughout the occupied territories, hospital officials said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, merchants shuttered their stores and public transportation ground to a halt for the second consecutive day as Palestinians observed a commercial strike to protest Israel's expulsion of eight Palestinians.

In another development, Israeli Arabs said the police ministry has stopped recruiting from villages within Israel out of fear that the Palestinian uprising is spreading throughout the 750,000-member Israeli Arab community.

Arab policemen told the Associated Press that 180 Arab policemen were recruited during the uprising to serve in the occupied territories after Palestinian policemen resigned.

Police chief David Kraus told the Maariv newspaper Friday that the Palestinian uprising had "penetrated deeply from the (occupied) territories to the Arab residents of the state of Israel."

Policemen said Police Minister Chaim Bar Lev told a meeting of potential Arab recruits from the town of Nazareth Friday that police had halted their recruitment drive among Arabs due to budgetary constraints.

The European Community (EC) has condemned the expulsion of eight Palestinians to Lebanon.

The expulsions "could only have a negative effect on the tense situation in the occupied territories," the EC said in a joint statement issued in Madrid Friday evening.

Before the expulsions took place Thursday, EC ambassadors asked Israel not to take this action, the statement said.

The condemnation was issued in Madrid because until Saturday Spain held the rotating presidency of the EC Council of Ministers.

'Military solution'

Israel's justice minister said Saturday that the Zionist state's legal system could not end the uprising in the occupied territories.

Asked about the expulsions, right-wing Justice Minister Dan Meridor told Israel radio: "I don't think there is a legal solution to the intifada."

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin met Meridor this week to try and find a legal way to expel Palestinians within days of an expulsion order, before the supreme court rules on any appeal.

Meridor's comment was at odds with Rabin's insistence that there can be no military solution to the Palestinian revolt. He refused to disclose the result of his talks with Rabin, but said:

"The legal establishment, legislation and its interpretation... to be used so that we can fight and win the wars that we must fight. But all this, all the time, must be while we maintain certain underlying norms."

CORRECTION

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi Saturday clarified two points that were erroneously mentioned in the Jordan Times' issues of June 29 and July 1 on pages 1 and 6 respectively.

Dr. Nabulsi categorically denied as baseless that when he previously served as CBJ governor he had proposed the idea of selling one quarter of the Kingdom's gold reserves of one million ounces and that approximately 150,000 nunces were exchanged for foreign currencies.

In a telephone conversation, the governor stressed he had never made such a proposal and that his views regarding gold reserves had always been clear in the effect that such a topic was not and continues to be completely out of his considerations.

The governor also set the record straight emphasizing that present gold reserves amount to 740,000 nunces out of which 140,000 are collateralised (and not 600,000 ounces out of which 140,000 ounces are collateralised) against previous foreign exchange advances.

The Jordan Times regrets the mistakes, and also thanks Dr. Nabulsi for his clarification and assures him that the errors were totally unintentional.

Kabul, rebels said to accept Arafat proposal

BEIRUT (R) — Afghan President Najibullah and several Mujahedeen guerrilla groups fighting to overthrow the Kabul government have agreed to a proposal by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat aimed at ending the decade-long war, an Arafat envoy said Saturday.

Abu Khaled, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) official in charge of Islamic affairs, told Reuters Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto had also agreed to the proposal.

There had been an important shift in attitude among Pakistan and Mujahedeen leaders who were now willing to seek a negotiated solution, Abu Khaled said in an interview at the Palestinian

diplomatic mission in Kabul. "If we didn't feel there was a big change, we wouldn't interfere in this problem now," he said.

But there was no immediate confirmation from the government in Islamabad or the Mujahedeen leaders based in Peshawar, northern Pakistan.

Abu Khaled said Arafat had called for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and for all parties involved in the conflict to begin negotiations.

Najibullah "accepted all these proposals from our side and warmly welcomed the proposals," said Abu Khaled, who met the Afghan leader in Kabul Friday.

UNITA denies violating truce, restates peace quest

LISBON (Agencies) — UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi Saturday shifted the blame for truce violations on to the Angolan government and insisted that his forces were honouring a one-week-long ceasefire.

Savimbi, in a statement received in Lisbon, denied that UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) was violating the ceasefire and accused the government of continuing military operations.

On Friday the government temporarily suspended peace talks aimed at ending the country's 14-year-old civil war, accusing UNITA of sabotaging electricity supplies to the capital Luanda.

"(UNITA reaffirms) its total adherence to the process of peace and national reconciliation," the statement said.

It acknowledged that it had taken some time for instructions from UNITA's high command to reach forces across Angola.

But the statement accused the government of "... continuing to hold military operations against UNITA forces and positions."

The official media also accused UNITA of an ambush in Kwanza Norte province in which five people were killed.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has ordered government armed forces to remain vigilant but to act only in self-defence and to respect the ceasefire.

Iraq ready to end Lebanon arms supply

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Saturday it was ready to stop supplying arms to Lebanon if such a move helped Arab League peace efforts and urged other countries to do the same.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying:

"If one of the things that would facilitate the mission of the (Arab League's) tripartite committee is to stop sending weapons to Lebanon, Iraq hereby announces its full commitment to that... and it calls on all parties to act in this trend."

The Iraqi spokesman said Baghdad wanted the committee to stop Syria and its allies from exploiting any halt in Iraqi arms supplies to Lebanon to "commit an aggression against any party."

Iraq arms Lebanese army units under Major-General Michel Aoun, who launched a campaign in March to drive Syria's estimated 40,000 troops out of Lebanon.

Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut said Friday that three Arab leaders charged by the league with ending the Lebanese conflict would send their foreign ministers to ask Iraq to stop sending arms to Aoun.

Iraq is contributing seriously and faithfully to achieve peace in Lebanon and to fortify the mission of the three-man Arab committee there," the Iraqi spokesman said in Baghdad.

He said Lebanese independence was threatened by Israeli forces in the south, Syrian troops and Iranian forces in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

The Iraqi move was announced during the previously unannounced visit to Baghdad of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister

Alexander Bessmertnykh. Meanwhile, fierce artillery battles raged across Beirut Saturday.

"I couldn't sleep for one minute. Shells were criss-crossing over the roof, it was like one of the bad nights he spent a few weeks ago," said Mounira Hajj, who lives in east Beirut.

Guns pounded Lebanon's rightist enclave from late Friday with hundreds of shells, killing two people and wounding 11, security sources reported.

They said rocket launchers in mountains fired scores of projectiles at seafront areas along a 25-kilometre strip, north of Beirut.

Security sources said that five people were wounded in the western retaliatory part of the capital in shelling by Aoun's forces, one of the many violations of a fragile Arab League-mediated ceasefire which started May 11.

The intensity of the barrage sharply decreased around 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) allowing the population to leave underground shelters.

The police spokesman said that shortly after the shelling eased, hundreds of families left west Beirut to safer areas in South Lebanon and the Bekaa.

He said a similar evacuation was reported from east Beirut. Families headed to summer resorts in mountains northeast of Beirut which are far from the confrontation zones.

No explanation was given for the sudden escalation in the confrontation, which came a few hours before a scheduled meeting in Jeddah by three Arab foreign ministers to consider a mechanism for stabilising Lebanon.

Gorbachev sees ethnic 'disaster'

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev told the Soviet people Saturday the wave of ethnic strife and local nationalism sweeping parts of the country could lead to disaster for all.

A serious-looking Gorbachev was speaking in a countrywide radio and television address clearly reflecting Kremlin alarm over mounting social and racial tension in several of the Soviet Union's 15 republics over the past three years.

"The fate of perestroika (his reform programme) and the unity of our state is at stake," he declared. "Irresponsible slogans, political provocations, setting one nation against another, could lead to disaster for all of us."

As President, Gorbachev said, "I consider it my duty to warn you about the mounting danger

of exacerbating inter-ethnic relations and its consequences for society, for every family and for every individual....

"We are talking about isolated seats of inter-ethnic clashes. But if we don't realise the extent of the enormous danger of such phenomena, and if they spread, we may be in for worse times."

In his 20-minute speech, Gorbachev signalled he saw danger coming from growing autonomist sentiments in the Baltic republics as well as from outright ethnic violence in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

He appealed to the Soviet people to show "tolerance and common sense" — and in a gesture to the more restless republics said the basis of the federal constitution under which they are joined could be reviewed in order to

improve it.

But he excluded any withdrawal from the Soviet Union, an aim now openly proclaimed by groups seeking independence in Georgia and Moldova and in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia — the three Baltic republics absorbed into the Soviet Union in 1940.

In another development, a senior Soviet politburo member said Saturday it would be a mistake to revive a multi-party system and denounced radical reformers for seeking to turn the country away from communism.

Vitaly Vorotnikov, president of the Russian Federation, told a meeting in the Siberian city of Chelyabinsk that the only way ahead for the Soviet Union was to strengthen the position of the Communist Party, according to a report issued by TASS.

Tiananmen Square reopened

PEKING (Agencies) — An army general signed autographs for Chinese tourists at the Gate of Heavenly Peace Saturday, the first day the gate overlooking Tiananmen Square was opened to civilians since soldiers crushed student protests in the square.

More than 2,200 tourists flocked to the ornate 17th-century gate, which sits on the square's northern end and is the main entrance to the former imperial palace.

It was reopened to celebrate the 68th birthday of the Chinese Communist Party. Nearly all of the tourists were Chinese, but the evening television news showed a couple identified as Americans.

Earlier Saturday, about 20,000 civilians and soldiers celebrated the party's birthday in the vast and immaculate square, which thousands of soldiers in tanks captured June 3-4 from students and supporters demanding democracy. The square remains closed to ordinary pedestrians.

Thousands of participants in the birthday ceremony were sworn in as party members.

A woman from the northeastern province of Liaoning who arrived in Peking two days ago said she did not know what had happened in the capital, where hundreds and possibly thousands of people died during the military crackdown.

"Everybody says it is all right now," she said.

A woman from eastern Shandong province claimed she did not even know the protests and crackdown had taken place. Her only interest was in having another traveller take her picture atop the gate.

Vehicles and bicycles were allowed to drive around Tiananmen Square but were not allowed to stop. Several dozen soldiers still stand guard around the square to keep out pedestrians.

Students demanding democracy, press freedom and clean government demonstrated in the square for seven weeks until the military crackdown.

فكرنا في العمل

Syria would try bombers if found

BONN (R) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa said Friday his country would prosecute any Palestinians suspected of involvement in the December bombing of a Pan Am airliner that killed 270 people.

Speaking on the second day of a two-day visit to Bonn, he said there was "no evidence whatsoever" Palestinians planted the bomb that blew apart the Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, Dec. 21. "But we are strongly determined to take the consequences and bring to court these people if they have anything to do with this attack, especially if these groups were based in Damascus," Sharaa told reporters after meeting West German government officials.

He was referring to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), which is based in Damascus and which has denied U.S. accusations of involvement in the Lockerbie bombing.

West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schauble appealed to Sharaa for Syria to use its influence in the Middle East to prevent further attacks in West Germany, a ministry spokesman said.

Authorities have tightened security this month at Frankfurt airport, citing intelligence



Farouq Al Sharaa

reports of a possible guerrilla attack to force the release of Mohammad Ali Hammadi, jailed for life May 17 by a Frankfurt court for the 1985 hijacking of a U.S. airliner.

The weekly magazine Stern reported last week that Israel's intelligence service had told Bonn that guerrillas also planned action to free two suspected members of the PFLP-GC rounded up by West German police last autumn.

Sharaa said he had reaffirmed to Schauble that "Syria is against terrorism and takes every step to fight terrorism."

"As you know Syria has helped bring about the release of several foreign hostages in Lebanon in the last year. Syria will take up the cases of the other hostages and try to have them freed as soon as possible," he said.

Sharaa also indicated Syria might resume diplomatic relations with Egypt in the near future, which would leave Libya as the only Arab Nation without ties with Cairo.

Iraq warns Iran against meddling

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq Saturday warned Iran against meddling in its affairs following a statement by Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani condemning Baghdad for its treatment of Iraqi Kurds.

"This is a notice of warning for all those who want to interfere in our internal affairs and a reminder to the people of Iran that such a course is playing with fire," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

INA quoted its political commentator as saying Iraq issued the warning following a speech by Rafsanjani Friday attacking Baghdad's plans to move Iraqi Kurds from a 30-kilometre wide strip along most of the border with Turkey and Iran.

"We do not know why the Iranian officials do not stop interfering in Iraq's internal affairs," the agency added.

INA said Iran had previously attempted to interfere in Iraq's

internal affairs. "The (Gulf) war was started by Iranian insistence to interfere in Iraqi affairs and raising slogans to overthrow the Baghdad regime," it said.

Iraq said last Monday it planned to depopulate the buffer zone to protect inhabitants who had suffered during the eight-year war with Iran in which a ceasefire has been in force since last August.

A statement issued by the Iraqi embassy in London and reported by INA said the decision would affect not only Kurds but also Arabs in central and southern settlements bordering Iran.

INA quoted Rafsanjani as saying in his Friday speech that:

"He cannot bear this injustice being descended on Arabs and Kurds."

"Instead of showing mercy and justice to Iranian Arabs, Rafsanjani is making himself a defender of Arabs and Kurds in Iraq," it said.

Iran: No progress

An Iranian diplomat said Friday that the Iran-Iraq peace talks were not making progress and a final settlement was no closer than when the U.N.-mediated talks began 10 months ago.

Sirous Nasser, Iranian ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, also told reporters that at present "even for the most optimistic it would be difficult to expect light at the end of the tunnel."

"We are perhaps further away from implementation of (U.N. Security Council Resolution) 598 today than we were on Aug. 25,

1988, when talks started in Geneva," he said at a news conference. Nasser blamed Iraq for the lack of progress, saying Baghdad has refused to withdraw immediately from Iranian territory to internationally recognised boundaries, as demanded by the resolution.

"We are fully committed to peace and have cooperated fully with the secretary-general," Nasser said. "Yet due to the Iraqi intransigence and lack of strong determination on the part of the United Nations, the current process seems inclusive."

Iraqi mission officials were not immediately available for comment, but each side has blamed the other for lack of progress in the talks and rejected each other's charges.

The last round of U.N.-mediated talks between foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq was held in May and no further talks have been scheduled.

Francis Giuliani, spokesman for Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, later denied the talks had failed to make any progress.

"I don't believe there has been any erosion and obviously the secretary-general would not continue a process which is moving backward and which is useless," Giuliani said.

The Iranian envoy complained that while the United Nations was trying in good faith to help it had not put enough pressure on Iraq and had not moved the talks along. He rejected what he called U.N. "passive mediation."

Soviet envoy in Baghdad

A Soviet minister is visiting Baghdad for a two-day visit and diplomats said Moscow's recent rapprochement with Iran might be discussed.

INA quoted First Deputy For-

ign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh as saying only that he had a message from President Mikhail Gorbachev on improving relations.

The Soviet Union was Baghdad's biggest arms supplier during the war. Tehran and Moscow signed a deal last week for economic cooperation worth \$1 billion over the next decade and the Soviets pledged to help Iran's defence capabilities.

Lebanon could also be discussed. Gorbachev Thursday endorsed Arab League presidential efforts there and said the Soviet Union might use diplomacy to help Syria and Iraq.

Bessmertnykh was meeting Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz to discuss relations. Middle East issues and the Iraq-Iran peace talks before leaving Sunday. Iraq's ambassador to Moscow, Saad Abdul Mujid Al Faisal, met Bessmertnykh Tuesday.

U.S. says policy on Mideast unchanged

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The State Department confirmed that the United States has held talks with a high-ranking official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as part of its continuing dialogue with that group to move the Middle East peace process forward.

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler told a news briefing Friday that U.S. policy regarding contacts with the PLO has not changed and that the U.S. ambassador to Tunis, Robert Pelletreau, remains the sole authorised U.S. channel for dialogue with the PLO.

"Our objective in the dialogue is to advance the peace process and to underscore our expectations that the PLO will adhere to its renunciation of terrorism," the spokeswoman said.

Tutwiler said that the discus-

sion between Pelletreau and Salah Khalaf does not signify an upgrading of the U.S. talks with the PLO. The spokeswoman noted that these Tunis exchanges, formal and informal, have involved many PLO participants and that these contacts are not secret. "No one asked us," Is Ambassador Pelletreau meeting with other individuals? "If someone would have asked, we would have said," yes.

Tutwiler said that "there was no intention to keep the meetings secret from anybody." She explained that the department does not announce "every time we meet with different individuals who might be helpful in moving our goal forward," adding that "right now" the department is not publishing a list of Pelletreau's contacts.

When asked if the United States shares the Israeli contention that PLO-backed "terrorism" is increasing, she replied, "no."

"As you know the PLO on Dec. 14 renounced terrorism, and that is when we began our substantive dialogue with them," the spokeswoman noted, adding that "I cannot categorically tell you that terrorism in every single place... is gone. But we stand by our dialogue, and we stand by their (PLO) statement when they renounced terrorism."

Asked if the dialogue with the PLO has advanced the peace process, Tutwiler said, "I have no reason to believe that it has not been constructive."

Tutwiler reiterated that the United States "wholeheartedly supports" Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's election proposal for the occupied territories.

Asked about Senator Connie Mack's call for a suspension of talks with the PLO, she did not reply directly but noted the continued consultations between the administration and Congress on this issue.

The spokeswoman said that there are no planned trips to the Middle East now for key officials of the department — including Assistant Secretary John Kelly or Dennis Ross of the policy planning staff. She added that she knows of no plans for Pelletreau to meet with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Tutwiler reported that Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad came to the department Thursday to see Kelly for a previously scheduled meeting. They discussed the PLO dialogue and the Israeli expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories.

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PLO, Arab League welcome EC stand

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Saturday welcomed the new position on Middle East peace adopted by European Community (EC) leaders in Madrid last Tuesday.

"The PLO welcomes and appreciates the statement issued by the EC summit on the Middle East, which contained clear principles for a just settlement in the region," a PLO spokesman said in a statement.

The summit advocated for the first time that the PLO should participate directly in the peace process and it took the PLO view that any elections in the Israeli-occupied territories should be part of an overall Middle East settlement.

"This progressive position taken by the EC represents a positive contribution towards pushing forward the peace process and provides a stable foundation for playing an active role in achieving a just solution," the PLO spokesman added.

The PLO hoped that France, which took over as EC president Saturday, would follow up the

EC position, he said.

The Arab League also welcomed the new EC position on the Middle East.

"We welcome the summit's concern with the Middle East and the clear determination it showed to contribute positively to the search for peaceful solutions," a league statement said Friday.

It said the EC summit was especially clear about the right conditions for elections in the occupied territories.

In Amman, the speaker of the Palestine National Council Friday warmly welcomed the EC call for the PLO to participate in a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference.

"We have 12 states saying what we keep saying. This is certainly a qualitative jump," Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh told a news conference.

"Europe feels that if the Palestine problem is not solved and the Palestinian people don't get their rights, the area will remain unstable and wars might break out at any moment," Sheikh Sayeh added.

Kabul to release U.S. journalist, PLO envoy says

KABUL (R) — Afghan President Najibullah has agreed to release an American photojournalist captured three weeks ago with Mujahideen guerrillas and jailed in Kabul, a senior Palestinian official said Saturday.

Abu Khaled, special envoy of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, said Najibullah had agreed to Arafat's request to free Tony O'Brien, arrested in Kabul June 8.

"I talked with President Najibullah and asked him to release him and he accepted that," Abu Khaled said, a day after meeting Najibullah.

O'Brien would be freed in "three or four days, not more than five," Abu Khaled said.

He said Arafat had decided to intervene after receiving letters from American journalists and an

international journalists' group asking his help.

O'Brien, a 43-year-old freelance photographer from Santa Fe, New Mexico, was on assignment for Life magazine when captured.

The government said he had entered Afghanistan illegally and officials initially said he was suspected of being a spy.

Abu Khaled, said Arafat had a lot of goodwill for American and other Western journalists because of their news coverage of the intifada in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"We call them (journalists) heroes, our friends," Abu Khaled said in an interview at the Palestine embassy in Kabul.

He said he was scheduled to meet O'Brien in jail later Saturday and would tell him of Na-

jibullah's decision.

There was no immediate comment from the Afghan government.

A U.S. consular official is already in Kabul seeking O'Brien's release.

Abu Khaled arrived in Kabul Thursday, five days after Arafat told the Pakistani parliament in Islamabad that he had discussed an initiative for peace in Afghanistan with Pakistani leaders and Afghan parties to the conflict.

A rebel spokesman then said Arafat had offered to mediate between the rebels and Moscow and that the proposal would be considered by the Pakistan-based rebel government.

Previously, the rebels have refused to talk or share power with Najibullah's ruling People's Democratic Party (PDPA) and vowed to fight on until they set up an Islamic government of their own.

Abu Khaled said several Mujahideen leaders, who have openly rejected Najibullah's calls in the past for a ceasefire, negotiations and elections to bring about a broad-based government, had been talking to the Afghan president secretly.

"All groups of the Mujahideen have been talking to Najibullah. I am a witness," he said. "We told them the important thing now is to make the brave decision to talk to President Najibullah directly, not in secret."

Afghan war creates shortages, high prices in Kabul

By Jeremy Clift
Reuters

KABUL — The lines to buy bread form long before dawn. A soldier stands guard by the bakery as the queue of turbaned men and women in billowing chadors presses towards the over where the flat bread is baked.

There is rarely enough of the cheap, government-subsidised bread to meet demand and people at the back often leave empty-handed.

The 10-year Afghan war has sharply driven up free market prices of food staples, putting them beyond the reach of many ordinary families, residents say.

A blockade of the capital Kabul early in the year created severe shortages of food and fuel.

But a Soviet airlift coupled with military strikes against the

guerrillas has lifted the blockade, with convoys of trucks arriving almost daily down the mountainous Salang road from the Soviet border to the north.

"There were a lot of difficulties three or four months ago," says Kabul Mayor General Mohammad Hakim.

"But we made it. The weather was very severe, but fortunately nobody died of starvation. Right now things are getting better," said the U.S.-trained officer, who retains a liking for American hamburgers. He has been wounded in action by the Mujahideen rebels several times.

Kabul's bazaars are crammed with goods from around the globe — radios from Japan, clocks from Shanghai and bicycles from England.

In the crowded market, traders hawk vegetables from Pakistan, tea from India and

cooking oil from Southeast Asia. At the money bazaar, money changers will quote "my best rate" for almost any currency on the globe.

Overhead, Soviet transport planes ferrying supplies leave trails of white smoke, creating patterns of herring-bone in the blue sky from the flares ejected to deflect rebel heat-seeking missiles as the planes approach the airport.

The clump of artillery fire echoes off the nearby hills that ring Kabul, as MiG jets take off to attack guerrilla positions around the besieged city of Jalalabad to the east.

But inside the city of brick and baked-mud houses, life is as near normal as it can be after a decade of war.

Rising prices mean many families can afford only to live on a diet of bread, radishes and

tea. Meat is a semi-luxury, residents say.

"We are living in bad war conditions," said Hakim in an interview with reporters at his city hall office.

"Because of their incomes, it is difficult for some families to get enough food. But that happens even in other countries. 'Maybe there is malnutrition, but nobody has died of starvation.'"

The average government worker in a ministry would get paid just 5,000-6,000 afghanis (\$17-\$20 at free market rates) a month. "It makes it very difficult to afford anything extra, like school books for my children," a worker in one ministry said.

Hakim said that high prices had encouraged traders to accept big risks ferrying supplies in through rebel-held

areas, often from Pakistan.

Truck drivers say they often have to pay levies to Mujahideen groups as they pass through their territory, sometimes being stopped five or six times by armed groups along the road.

A coupon system gives many families and government workers in Kabul access to subsidised flour, sugar, tea and other goods, partially making up for their low salaries.

The city has grown from 800,000 in 1978 at the time of the coup which brought the ruling People's Democratic Party to power, to more than two million today, with the capital swelled by people displaced from other parts of Afghanistan because of the fighting.

The Soviet-backed government appears increasingly confident that it can defend the city

against any concerted Mujahideen attack.

The number of rockets fired by the rebels into the capital has dropped dramatically over the past few months, from around 100 on some days last summer to around an average of 10 a day this month.

But shortages of medicines have badly affected health care.

"Between 65-70 per cent of the children admitted to our hospital for differing reasons are also suffering from malnutrition to some degree," says Professor Abdul Salam Jalali, who heads Kabul's main child hospital.

"We are short of many medical and surgical items, particularly antibiotics and intravenous fluid sets."

"There is even a shortage of plaster of paris to mend broken legs."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Al Wafd editor dies

CAIRO (R) — Mostafa Sherif, the editor of Egypt's opposition daily newspaper Al Wafd, has died in hospital after a heart attack, his office said Saturday. He was 55. A harsh critic of government policies and a member of parliament, Sherif helped found the United Arab Emirates' first daily newspaper Al Itihad, in 1971. He worked for several Egyptian newspapers and in the mid 50s won acclaim for his reports and pictures of the 1956 British-French invasion of Port Said.

Iran says armed bandits arrested

NICOSIA (R) — Seven armed bandits have been captured in Iran's Kerman province, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Saturday. The agency said the bandits, armed with automatic rifles and hand grenades, confessed to narcotic trafficking in various southern cities, attacking Revolutionary Guards and killing four policemen. IRNA quoted the Islamic Revolution Committee as saying that in another incident 20 armed bandits of the Shabnam clan surrendered and handed over their arms.

Morocco abolishes summer time

RABAT (R) — Morocco, which began an experiment with summer time early this month, has turned back the clocks in order to give the people a good night's rest, officials said Friday. Clocks were put back one hour at midnight and Morocco reverted to Greenwich mean time (GMT) Saturday because of complaints from mosque-goers. The last prayer of the day, Al Isha, is at 10.30 p.m. in summertime, meaning that worshippers cannot get home from the mosque until just before midnight. In 1988 Morocco stayed on GMT all year. Summertime was introduced June 4 this year to try to save energy.

N. Cyprus court frees German women

NICOSIA (R) — A Turkish-Cypriot appeal court has freed two West German women tourists whose jail sentences for killing a rapist in self-defence caused a storm of protest. "You are free to go," Judge Salih Dayioglu told Ute Loh, 48, and her 21-year-old daughter Melani after quashing their convictions for the manslaughter of a Turkish Cypriot who attacked them in a bar in March. The women sobbed with joy and embraced as the judge overturned Ute Loh's four-year jail term and Melani's three-year term imposed by a lower court last month. The case received wide press coverage and criticism in West Germany. Court sources said Ute Loh would still serve the remainder of a three-month sentence for possessing 55 grammes of cannabis. The judge said the women killed 20-year-old Ozmen Tulga inadvertently and in self-defence. Ute Loh lost four teeth in the fight in north Cyprus after Tulga had raped Melani three times. The judge dismissed a prosecution appeal for longer jail terms. The lower court said the women killed Tulga when he was weakened by the struggle and no longer posed a threat. It also said the women had failed to run away.

Saudi newspapers assail Iran

RIYADH (R) — A Saudi Arabian newspaper accused Iran Saturday of seeking to stir up unrest at this month's annual pilgrimage to Mecca. "What is important for them is to transform the Hajj to an occasion to incite strife," the Dammam-based Al Yom daily said in an editorial. The Jeddah-based Al Bilad daily also hit out at Iran, saying an Iranian media campaign against Saudi Arabia was misleading and would harm relations between the two neighbours. Riyadh warned Thursday it would retaliate in kind if Iran continued hostile propaganda against the kingdom. Saudi Arabia's King Fahd called in October for an end to the war of words between the two countries.

Iran prepares to dredge major ports

NICOSIA (R) — Two major Iranian ports badly damaged in the eight-year war with Iraq will be dredged soon, the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) said Sunday. Khorramshahr and Abadan lie on the Shatt Al Arab waterway, sovereignty over which is disputed by the Gulf war foes. The agency quoted Kabir Sadeqi, an official of the Ports and Shipping Organisation, as saying 5.5 billion riyals (\$75.3 million) had been set aside for preliminary dredging and repairs to the ports. Sadeqi said comprehensive plans for full reconstruction of the port cities would be carried out after the Shatt was dredged. He did not say when this would happen.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Program review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Football
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
18:20 Give Me a Break
19:15 Local programme
19:40 Program review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:40 Program review
21:50 Local programme
22:40 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Le monde mosque chantal goya
18:00 Loft story
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 Tantea
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Foul up - Bleeps & Blunders
21:10 Doc "Assignment Adventures"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Agatha Christie's Poirot

PRAYER TIMES

63:54 Fair

CHURCHES

15:29 (Sunrise) Duha
12:39 Dhuh
16:20 'Asr
19:58 Maghrib
21:25 'Isha

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terresanta Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628343.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Normal summer weather conditions are expected and winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

AMMAN

Min./max. temp. 18 / 32
Aqaba 24 / 39
Deserts 18 / 36
Jordan Valley 23 / 39

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Ahmad Al Nalour 633934
Dr. Jamil Al Zir 794149
Dr. Joseph Inshir 770560
Dr. Musa Bashir 615487
First pharmacy 775121
Ferdows pharmacy 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 01020
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 01020
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111

IRBID:

Dr. Lutfi Al Shalabi (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Youssef Abu Sa'ad 989000
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

"Children of the revolution of stones"

Palestinian tragedy slowly penetrating American conscience

By Ghadeer Taher
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The "human tragedy" of the Palestinian uprising, particularly of the "children of the revolution of stones" — silent graves, broken bones, bereaved families, closed schools and terrorising detentions — is slowly penetrating the conscience of the average American on the street and has prompted a voluntary American group to further expose the reality and seek to contribute to a peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem.

"We are not another of those fact-finding missions which merely gather statistics and of whom the Palestinian people have had enough," says Landrum Bolling, head of the 16-member group which visited Jordan, the occupied territories and Israel on a trip aimed at "gaining close, firsthand information on the situation and seeing how we can help peace efforts."

"We have seen it all," said Bolling, who has served as head of an ecumenical church in the West Bank for four years. "We visited hospitals and camps, met with Palestinians, Israeli officials as well as settler groups and heard the views of every side."

"We have seen the young and old beaten or shot; we listened to Israelis from all sides of the political spectrum and we have discussed the Palestinian position," added Bolling, who said he is very familiar with the root conflict over the past 30 years.

The message that the American group is carrying back home is simple but the same time politically very complex. Bolling summed it up: "The Palestinian suffering is too great and must end; the occupation has been too long and must stop; there cannot be a solution through violence; international awareness of the tragedy is growing; and, finally, the situation is highly explosive."

"The Palestinian cause is clear," said the Quaker. "They are sick and tired of the occupation and are no longer willing to put up with Israeli oppression."

And how does the group intend to go about conveying its message to the American public?

"Through lectures, speeches, conferences, and publications," answers Bolling pointing out that the group draws its membership from a wide cross section of American society.

"We do not represent any interest group, religion or party," said Bolling. "Quite simply, we are concerned American citizens. Among us are academics, businessmen, journalists, clergymen, doctors, architects, students and even a renowned musician."

Peter Yarrow of the former folklore group "Peter, Paul and Mary" of the 1960s, picks up from Bolling with a few lines from a song he said was inspired by what he saw in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip this week.

"How can you hurt the children?"

Why do you hurt the children?

...In the name of God,

You have to stop, shimmy Israel!

Interviewed in his crowded hotel room cluttered with musical instruments, Yarrow appeared to be having difficulty in getting the rhythm and the words right. But there was no ambiguity in his message, which had a special focus on the children of the intifada. "How can you punish the children for fighting for their rights?" he asked, expressing particular concern over the prolonged closure of Palestinian schools in the occupied territories.

"You don't know the extent of the traumatic effect this has on the fibre of the society," Bolling interjected.

Both Bolling and Yarrow said they believe that the average American was being alerted to the tragedy of the Palestinian people, and the American society, if made fully aware of the real nature of the problem, would react positively to find an end to it. "But, public awareness has not gone far enough, especially in light of the Israeli government's ban on television coverage of the intifada," Yarrow says.

Despite Israel's concerted efforts to escape negative publicity over its policies and brutal methods, it has drawn not only international condemnation but has also created a fundamental rift within the Jewish community around the world, particularly in the United States, Bolling pointed out.

"We see the split within the American-Jewish community as a positive development for the Palestinians because now Jews themselves are questioning the justice of occupation," Bolling added.

Yarrow also intends to positively exploit the rift in order to press American Jews to rethink the issues and abandon the "no-matter-right-or-wrong-we-support-Israel attitude."

"I am going to do my best with my speeches and songs to tell the people what I saw," said Yarrow, who, along with several other members of the delegation, are actively involved in pushing for respect for human rights in several Central and Latin American countries.

Yarrow, proudly displaying a rope bracelet in the colours of the Palestinian flag, scoffed at Israel's claim that it faces a threat to its security and existence to justify its brutal handling of the intifada. "This is not a war, but repression by one group and the response to repression by another," said the Jewish singer. "You cannot call this a war because you simply cannot equate a child's rock with a soldier's bullet."

Echoing Bolling's message that violence will not solve the problem, Yarrow called for dialogue because "bloodshed will destroy both people."

The group left Amman Saturday.

WANTED used computers

Preferably IBM compatible, and in good condition. Main use as word processor.

Please contact 667171 Extn: 222

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohammad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of children's books held within the framework of the Ninth Arab Children's Congress at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photography exhibition entitled "Constructed Narratives" at the British Council — 6:00 p.m.

Unprecedented Israeli measures make life difficult for Arab travellers

AMMAN (J.T.) — In yet another arbitrary measure exercised against Palestinians travelling to the occupied territories to visit relatives this summer, the Israeli authorities Friday returned a bus-load of passengers and refused to let them cross the King Hussein Bridge.

A report in Al Rai Arabic daily said, since the middle of June, the Israelis have resorted to unprecedented measures to make it difficult for those crossing into the West Bank by drastically reducing the number of visitors.

The bridge which normally

allows 2,500 visitors on a daily basis has witnessed the crossing of a few hundred instead, the report added.

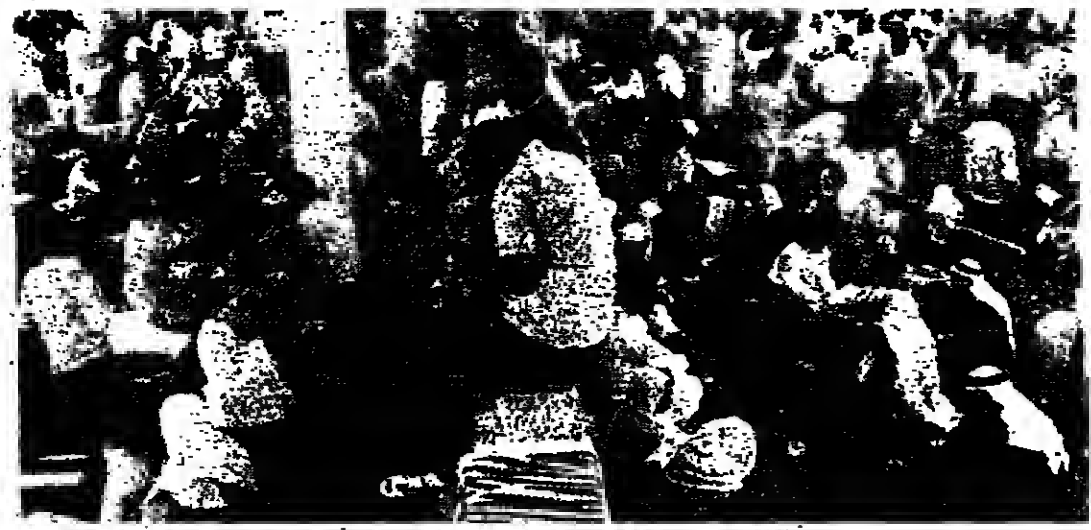
The 55 passengers returned from the Israeli side Friday added to the congestion of the Palestinian visitors on the Jordanian side, creating more confusion and further delays.

According to the report, only 500 travellers were allowed entry into the West Bank Friday, but the Jordanian authorities were pursuing efforts to allow a greater number of people to cross.

Since June 15, the report said, a total of 20,000 were able to make it to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to visit their relatives, the paper noted.

Meanwhile, the Jordanian authorities have opened three centres in Amman, Zarqa and Irbid to organise travel across the bridges.

The centres, which open Sunday will receive travel documents and permits, forward them to the bridge terminals and organise the crossing procedure, with preference given to the sick and emergency cases.



Congestion at the King Hussein Bridge terminal (photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

CVDB grants JD 89m in loans to local councils since 1980

AMMAN (J.T.) — Since its establishment in 1980 and until the end of 1988, the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) has granted a total of JD 89 million in loans to local councils to help them finance income-generating projects or to carry out municipal work, the bank's director general, Mohammad Saleh Al Houzami, was quoted as saying in a newspaper interview published on Saturday.

Of these loans, the municipal councils acquired JD 65 million while the village councils, JD 24 million. Hourani explained in an interview published in Al-Dustour daily.

Hourani noted that 38 per cent of the loans normally finance the building of streets and roads, 18 per cent for schools, 16 per cent for land appropriation and 12 per cent for income-generating projects.

He said that the loans carry simple annual interest ranging from 7.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent.

Hourani said that local councils are finding it more and more difficult to pay back the loans for a variety of reasons including:

- Failure on their part to collect fees and other dues from the local inhabitants
- Huge loans exceeding the councils' ability to settle
- The growing cost of projects being implemented in some areas
- The lack of proper skilled manpower to help the councils develop their revenues and raise sufficient funds to pay back dues
- Rising cost of land appropriated by the councils for municipal

projects, and a growing demand on municipal and village council services. Hourani said that the bank continues to face pressure from various local councils to obtain additional loans, but the bank's policy is clear. "It is in favour of granting loans for essential infrastructure projects and income-generating schemes that would help the councils develop and increase their income."

Loans are granted once the bank is certain that the councils requiring them can pay back, Hourani added.

Hourani referred to a recent government decision for rescheduling loans given to these councils in 1986 and cancelling all interest on them.

He said that the government

has also decided to exempt all councils from paying interest on loans obtained in 1989 and declared that the treasury will bear the cost of land purchased by the local councils for implementing projects.

These two decisions, taken in accordance with Royal directives, are bound to help the local councils improve their financial situation and make new arrangements for paying back their loans, Hourani said.

Referring to loans due on local councils in the occupied West Bank, Hourani said that the total amount of loans there stood at JD 600,000; but the Ministry of Finance has now taken on the responsibility of repaying the loans when they mature.

Educational supervisors begin 11-day training

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 25 educational supervisors working for the Ministry of Education gathered at Amman Hotel Saturday for an 11-day training course to help improve their efficiency and supervisory work. The participants will bear lectures on planning, administration and leadership, as well as supervisory work and requirements for training, communication with the teachers in the field and other related topics. The course is being organised by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Institute of Public Administration.

Meanwhile, the Department of Education in the Amman area announced Saturday the start of summer classes for students in the Amman region. Altogether there are 11 centres offering training, cultural and educational courses to students during the coming six weeks, according to Mr. Khaled Al Nabati, from the Department of Education here.

He said that the classes held in various districts of the capital, will be open five days a week for the students' activities which are being supervised by qualified teachers.

Tobacco firm, employees reach settlement

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Tobacco Company (JTC) Saturday began to disperse annual increments and other benefits to its employees as part of an agreement reached with the workers' syndicate.

The agreement came after protracted negotiations and a threat by the 800-person staff to take mass leave, according to syndicate and company sources.

Mohammad Samih Ismail, head of the workers' syndicate, told the Jordan Times that demands for salary increases of between JD 9 and JD 20 per month were met by the management. In addition, he said that 150 other per diem workers were absorbed as fully-fledged staff.

JTC managing director Mohammad Ali Saad said all outstanding issues were settled with the staff, but warned that the settlement would increase the financial burden on the company,

which, he said, was "suffering losses in millions."

Saad said this year's increases, retroactive to Jan. 1, were comparable to last year's increments.

"We have settled the dispute once and for all, and the record has been straightened," Saad told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Ismail said the settlement would cost the company JD 200,000 a year, including JD 50,000 to cover salaries of per diem workers with all related benefits.

He said the JTC, 30 per cent of which is owned by the government, has also agreed to begin dispersing staff savings from the company's provident fund for workers who completed 15 years of service.

He said the fund, established in 1968, accumulated JD 1.5 million in savings and that workers pressed for the release of the savings in view of the devaluation of the dinar.

Workers who have not com-

pleted 15 years can draw on their savings in accordance with a new system that provides for provident fund lending in proportion with the salary and the size of the savings.

"We have approached the government to help support the company financially," Ismail said. "This, we hope, would help JTC to meet the workers' demands and strengthen the company's financial standing."

He said an agreement had also been reached "in principle" to include families of the employees in a health insurance system.

Ismail said a government committee was currently studying the company's financial status to determine whether such an insurance plan would be economically feasible.

Saad said the current rate of the dinar has put pressure on the company, pointing out that JTC needs hard currency for its imports of packaging and other raw materials and some tobacco that is mixed with locally-produced

JPMC registers record sales of phosphate in first half of this year

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) has registered record sales of phosphates in the first half of this year, selling 3.45 million tonnes and producing a new record of 3.4 million tonnes, the company's Director General Wasef Azar announced Saturday.

He said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the difference between production and sales stems from the fact that the company had stocks of phosphates in its warehouses from previous production at its three mines — Shidieh, Al Hassa and Wadi Al Abiad.

According to Azar, production in the first six months of 1989 registered an increase of 21 per cent over the same period of 1988, and the sales registered an increase of 35 per cent over the same period.

He said that Jordan's exports

of phosphate in June amounted to 659,000 tonnes, the highest quantity ever to be exported in one month and up from 648,000 tonnes exported in December of 1986.

During the past month, a total of 719,000 tonnes of phosphate were transported from the mines in southern Jordan to Aqaba for export, thus raising to four million tonnes the total amount of phosphate transported in the first half of this year, up from 2.93 million tonnes in the same period of 1988.

In view of the increase in pro-

duction and sales, Azar said, he expects the company's revenues for the current year to reach \$400 million.

"Thanks to the company's efforts to expand the sales of phosphate to the largest possible number of nations, Jordanian revenues from the mineral will continue to increase," Azar said.

According to Azar, Jordanian phosphate is now sold to a total of 25 countries in Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

In a statement earlier this year, Azar said that the company hoped to produce seven million tonnes of phosphate during 1989.

He said apart from phosphate, the company increased its production of aluminium fluoride in the first quarter of 1989, producing 3,270 tonnes, an increase of 10 per cent over the same period of last year.

'Arab World transport sector suffers from lack of organisation'

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab World transport sector suffers from ill planning and improper organisation; and the absence of long-term and comprehensive plans leads to overlooking all precautionary elements for public safety, Abdul Hadi Alawin, director general of the Department of Statistics said here Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a two-week training seminar on transport statistics in the Arab World, Alawin said that the vast growing road networks in the Arab World disregard to traffic regulations in addition to the

other human factors lead to a constant rise in the number of road accidents.

The violation of axial weight regulations on the roads, he said, is a major cause for road damage and a consequent loss to investments in road networks in the Arab states.

Alawin stressed the importance of the human element in development in general and the drive to maintain safety on the roads in particular. He added that statistics on road networks and road maintenance are of extreme importance in this regard.

Another speaker at the opening session was Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Jabbouri, director general of the Arab Statistics Training and Research Institute, who said that transport and communications in the Arab World are among the major factors for socio-economic development.

He too criticised the state of roads in the Arab World and said the Arab countries lack proper planning in the field of transport and communications, and have no proper coordination among them in land, sea and air transport operations.

Ministry seeks to impose fees on vehicles using certain major roads

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works and Housing is currently preparing a legislation for imposing special fees on vehicles using certain major roads in the Kingdom with the purpose of raising funds for their maintenance and repair, Public Works and Housing Minister Shafiq Zawaideh announced Saturday.

He said that the imposition of special fees on the roads is part of the ministry's drive to keep the roads in good condition and to partly finance the repair of those damaged by an excessive axial weights.

Another way in dealing with the problem is the amendment of a set of specifications for roads in Jordan, giving definite designs and specifications for the construction and repair of roads and giving details about the types of axial weights on various types of roads, the minister added.

Statistics available to the ministry show that 64 per cent of the total volume of traffic uses main roads and the rest uses secondary

or side roads, the minister noted.

Referring to the network of roads in the Kingdom, Zawaideh said that the country now has 8,000 kilometre length of asphalted and agricultural roads; and noted that ministry repair teams continue to give due care to this network which is an essential factor for development.

According to Zawaideh, the ministry has been reducing its allocations for road construction and giving preference to repair.

He said road construction allocation for 1989 is JD 45 million, down from JD 60 million in 1987. "This is largely due to the current economic circumstances,"

But, he noted, that the ministry was committed to improve the condition of 400 kilometre length of main roads, 300 kilometre length of secondary roads and 500 kilometre length of rural and agricultural roads within the current 1986-1990 five-year plan.

Zawaideh announced that the ministry is currently numbering roads and fixing direction signs in accordance with a special set of regulations approved by the cabinet.

He said that the regulations which are being published in a guidebook classifies roads into three sectors — main, secondary and agricultural — and provides ample information to the motorists.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KING SENDS BEST WISHES: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday cabled the governor general of Canada on the country's National Day anniversary. In his cable, the King wished the Canadian government and people continued progress and prosperity. (Petra)

CANADIAN ENVOY HOLDS RECEPTION: The Ambassador of Canada and Mrs. Michael Bell held a reception at their residence Saturday on the anniversary of Canada's National Day. The reception was attended by senior government officials, diplomats, and a number of dignitaries. (J.T.)

ASSAD EXAMINES EXAM HALLS: Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Assad Saturday inspected the examination halls used by community college students currently taking the comprehensive examinations. Assad also met with a number of students and enquired about the examinations. (Petra)

IMPORTS FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: The Ministry of Agriculture has permitted the import of some agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in light of local market needs. The permission is based on the presentation of authenticated certificates of issuance. (Petra)

Telecommunications Corporation

Applications For Type Approval Data Modems And Multiplexers

The Telecommunications Corporation is pleased to invite applications for type approval of "Data Modems and Multiplexers" from dealers wishing to import these items.

A copy of TCC short specifications, to which the equipment must conform before connection to the public telephone network is allowed, may be obtained, free of charge, from the office mentioned below for submission of applications.

Interested dealers are advised to apply for type approval before importing the above mentioned equipment.

- Applications must be accompanied by:
 - Point by point statement of technical compliance with TCC specifications.
 - Technical literature and brochures for the equipment.
 - Two samples of equipment which will be returned after testing.

Applications shall be submitted before 12:00 hrs (noon) on Thursday Sept. 14, 1989, to the office of:-

The Secretary of Tender Committee
TCC Headquarters — Tower Building 6th Floor.

Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail
Director General



The management of Jordan Tobacco Company (left) meets the employees to settle the wage dispute

سكوت الأمل

A war on drugs

By Clare Pedrick

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Latin American leaders have called for a global crackdown on the drug problem which, they say, has now taken on the dimensions of a third world war.

Speaking on a recent visit to the U.S., key political figures from Peru and Colombia have warned that there can be no let-up in the escalation of cocaine production until the countries which consume the drugs — mainly Europe and North America — commit themselves to helping the producer nations, and to controlling drug abuse on their own doorstep.

The comments came in the wake of admissions that White House efforts to control drug trafficking have suffered a series of crushing setbacks. According to the latest U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) figures, coca production in Latin America has doubled in the past five years to a record high which will this year permit the production of more than one million pounds of cocaine. At the same time record production of heroin in Asia — mostly Burma, Laos and Afghanistan — threatens to flood the market this year.

DEA officials report that Colombia traffickers are now planting the coca crop in the remote Amazonian jungles of Brazil — making detection virtually impossible. Narcotics experts point to the great difficulty in monitoring drug activities in a country the size of Brazil — only slightly smaller than the U.S. — with a 1040-mile border with Colombia where drug cartels are effectively running the country. Drug processing laboratories have been set up inside Brazil by Colombian drug lords who take advantage of

the easier access to locally-produced chemicals, mostly ether and acetone, used to turn coca paste into pure cocaine.

The U.S. has increased its contribution to Brazil's anti-drug effort from \$200,000 in 1985 to \$2.2 million in 1988, yet results are dismal, experts say: teams of drug agents sent to jungle to pull out the coca plants by hand cannot keep up with the planting done by Indians who are paid by drug traffickers only in clothing, machetes, and food for their work. Meanwhile, U.S.-funded programmes to eradicate the crops with pesticides have failed entirely in Peru and had only a very limited success in Colombia.

According to Peru's former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa, head of the opposition to the present government led by the beleaguered President Alan Garcia, a world-wide strategy is the only solution to the drug problem. "Up until now there has been an erroneous belief that it was up to us, small and relatively poor countries — in particular Peru, Bolivia and Colombia; which together produce 97 per cent of the world's coca leaves — to alone eradicate the crops," he said.

"But when I hear President Bush say — as I have heard him say — that more people have been killed and mentally destroyed in the U.S. by drugs than in the whole of Vietnam or the Second World War, then I have to assume that the United States is aware that it is at war."

"We are talking about a world war, then it is something which has to be fought by humanity, not just by a few poor countries," he added. "The U.S. has spent more than \$4 billion in trying to prevent drugs from entering the country, and yet it

expects that with a few million dollars, the producer countries should win the war on behalf of everyone. I have heard heads of state in Europe say that their No. 1 problem is now drugs. In my opinion, the principal responsibility in tackling it rests with the consumer countries."

According to some estimates, as many as 200,000 acres of coca are cultivated in Peru's Upper Huallaga Valley, accounting for more than half of the cocaine being sold on the streets of the United States. In this remote, 150-mile long strip on the slopes of the Andes mountains, coca-growing peasants work with the protection of the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas, an alliance that has so far proved invincible.

Such is the level of intimidation in this area that Peruvian military troops, sent in to halt the Huallaga Valley drug production, are too frightened to leave their barracks, officials say. Shining Path terrorists gunned down 10 policemen in the area in May, while as many as 40 members of the Peruvian Coca Reduction Agency (CORAH) have been murdered during the past three years. Many raids have gone sour, undermined by peasant resistance, faulty intelligence and endemic corruption. In February, U.S. officials decided to call off a programme in which DEA agents accompanied Peruvian police in paramilitary strikes on traffickers on the grounds that it was too dangerous.

Impatience with what coca-producing countries claim is a lack of real commitment on the part of the consumer nations has led to the establishment of the Andean Pact, an alliance formed between Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela in an attempt to beat the drug

traffickers.

A multi-lateral solution

Said Misael Pastrana Borrero, a former president of Colombia: "These countries have got together to try to reach a multi-lateral solution, and to forget about the bilateral solutions they were working towards with the United States, because they were having no impact. But as I see it, the only answer is to fight the drug problem with an overall coordinated attack. The developed countries and the under-developed countries must work together to control both drug production and drug consumption. As long as tough measures are not introduced to halt drug consumption, then there will be a market, and as long as there is a market, there will always be producers waiting to sell to it."

Borrero draws a parallel between the drug problem and terrorism. "At first it was widely thought that terrorism had to be fought by each country on its own," he said. "Then later, in the early 1980s, it became clear it was a universal problem, and the only hope of stopping it was by working together. The United States and other developed countries must understand that with drugs we have a similar situation. We need international cooperation to combat it. The developed countries have to help the countries who are producing the drugs. Up until now, we have only had advice, a lot of criticism and very little financial support."

In the United States itself, the Bush administration has come under sharp criticism for failing to meet election promises which cited the drugs battle as a priority issue. In campaign speeches, Bush pledged to schedule an international summit on the issue, as well as create a special global



According to Misael Pastrana Borrero, former president of Colombia, only a concerted effort on the part of developing nations and the industrialised world can curb the drug trade. (WNL)

task force to fight the drug barons, yet so far neither has materialised. Last month (May) also saw the expiry of the deadline for the inclusion of a comprehensive anti-drug strategy as an amendment to the 1988 Andean Pact — a failure which led one congressman, Democrat Stephen J. Solarz, to accuse the State Department of "a kind of hopelessness" in its approach towards the Latin American drug problem.

One country which does have some positive news to report on the drug front in Mexico, where police have arrested the nation's most notorious trafficker, Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo. Felix Gallardo, head of the infamous Guadalajara cartel is suspected of the 1985 torture and murder of DEA undercover agent Enrique Camarena. He is also held responsible for the import of 2 tons of cocaine to the U.S. each month.

After his arrest in May Felix Gallardo was flown to Mexico City and charged with drug trafficking, bribery and illegal possession of weapons. If convicted, he could face a sentence of up to 63 years in jail. Soon afterwards, five police officers were hauled in and charged with providing Gallardo with weapons and letting

him roam free.

Crackdown

The arrests mark what the Mexican government claims is a crackdown on corruption and bribery in the country. In two related developments, police arrested Joaquin Hernandez Galicia, the widely feared leader of Mexico's oil workers' union and Eduardo Legorreta Chauvert, a leading businessman with close links to the government.

Cynics claim the police raids are nothing more than a public relations exercise, which aim to win popularity for the newly installed president, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who took office late last year. Nevertheless, the Bush administration has said it is encouraged by the initiatives, and a recent report issued by the State Department to the U.S. Congress noted "improvements in several areas."

While in Washington recently Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico from 1982 to 1988, commented: "This is no smokescreen. It's a real crackdown. Mexico is taking its own initiative to tackle the drug problem."

Former Prime Minister Manuel



Illegal drugs: "We are talking about a world war," says Peru's former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa. (WNL)

Ulloa claims strong arms tactics as those being used in Mexico must be matched with a concerted education programme, if the battle against the drug barons is to have any real effect. "This is a war which must be fought on all fronts, by whatever means available and necessary — with tough, even sinister methods against the traffickers and peddlers, but also by mobilising public opinion," he said.

"We need to make an enormous effort on education, because it is the children and young people who are the victims of the drugs trade. We are talking about the future of society."

Peru's particular problem of the close alliance between the drug lords and the Shining Path terrorists is one which can only be

tackled at a political level, says Ulloa. "The Shining Path problem has become more serious and dramatic because of the economic conditions," he added. "It is a result of the ineptitude of the Peruvian government and Peruvian society to cope with the country's problems... We have managed to impoverish the country, plunging it into its worst ever period of economic attrition. In the past 12 months we had inflation of 4300 per cent, and that is expected to rise to 10,000 per cent this year. It seems we now have the dubious honour of having the highest inflation in the world. That used to belong to Nicaragua, but we have overtaken them to become No. 1 in the bit parade" — World News Link.

Around since early Egyptians implant surgery is gaining acceptance

By Ken Kusner
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Professional basketball player Vern Fleming used to worry that when he was hit in the mouth his teeth would spill out into the floor. Years of neglect had left his upper teeth decayed and loose.

Georgia Price never had real teeth, only soft tooth buds barely emerging from her gums where her baby teeth never came in. The nurse, now 41, received her first dentures at age 3 and a second set at 12.

Both have found relief with

permanent implants, teeth anchored on metal rods supported by frameworks hidden underneath the gums.

"I always thought how wonderful it would be to feel like I have teeth," Price said. "I speak clearer now without my teeth flying across the room."

Dental implants have been around since the early Egyptians, but remain largely unknown among the public. More frustrated denture wearers are getting them, though, as implants gain wider acceptance among dentists.

A national institutes of health

conference last year said in a statement that the number of U.S. dentists performing implants had grown tenfold in five years and that 300,000 Americans a year will be getting implanted teeth by 1992.

Implant dentistry was a \$150-million industry in this country last year, estimated Dr. Richard Guaccio, president of the 2,000-member American Academy of Implant Dentistry.

Some dentists caution that implants aren't for everyone, particularly those with overriding health problems and those who won't give the devices the care

and cleaning necessary to prevent infection and prosthetic failure.

Few people enjoy having to take dentures out at night, and some are embarrassed to let their spouses or others see them without their false teeth, said Dr. Craig Cooper, who does 300-400 implants a year. "They eat better, but it's way beyond that from a psychological point of view."

Sixty per cent of the respondents to a marketing survey last year had never heard of implants, said Cooper, who directs the faculty at the Midwest Implant Institute in Columbus, Ohio, which has trained 600 dentists in

implantology since 1981.

Yet a survey three years ago by the National Institute of Dental Research suggests many people could use them. Forty-two per cent of Americans over age 65 and 4 per cent of those aged 35 to 64 have no teeth, it reported.

The growing older market, a wealthy segment of the population, provides implant dentistry with a tremendous opportunity for growth, and manufacturers have provided a variety of the devices, Cooper said. "It's exponential growth. There are fewer and fewer patients we cannot treat."

The American Dental Association has reservations.

"In general the feeling is that implants can be used on a selected basis, depending on the patient and the patient's condition," said Dr. Wayne Wozniak, of Ada's Chicago Laboratory on Certification and Product Research. "It should only be done on people the dentist feels can properly maintain the implant. It requires meticulous oral hygiene after the device has been placed. So it requires a highly motivated individual."

Infection around the implant would erode the bone where

many of the devices are implanted; lack of adequate bone would immediately eliminate some patients from being implant candidates. One implant, subperiosteal, is not based in bone and consists of a wire framework fitted between the bone and the gum.

Depending on the type, implants can cost as little as \$600 for a single tooth or as much as \$10,000 for a full upper or lower arch. Most procedures are performed as outpatient surgery.

The NIH statement said there was little information on long-

term effectiveness of implants and called for a national registry to collect data. However, it's generally considered that 80 per cent to 90 per cent of implants are successful for at least five to 10 years.

Cooper, who inserted the 28-year-old Fleming's subperiosteal implant, said it should last the rest of his life with proper care.

Implants can last 20 years and more, said Guaccio, estimating that after 18 years, "about 87 per cent of the implants I've ever placed are still functioning in the mouth."

Fonda — turning the other cheek

By Sally Ogle Davis

HER BODY is as close to perfection as can be created by a combination of nature and scalpel.

Her hair is blonde and designer windswept. Her clothes, down to the designer jeans, are courtesy of Milan's finest. Her image is youthful, vibrant and undiluted Hollywood.

But this is no soap opera bimbo. This is a 52-year-old established star, a double Oscar winner, and a millionaire many times over through her widespread business interests.

The vision, introduced last in

true starlet fashion at Cannes last month, is Jane Fonda. At an age when most women are contemplating how nice it would be to have grandchildren, she has dumped her husband, is being linked with hrat-packer Rob Lowe, 25, and become a born-again sex symbol.

Not so long ago the revolutionary Fonda would literally have spat at the thought of launching her latest film amid the trivial pursuits of Cannes. It would have offended her left-wing ideals and insulted her feminist principles.

Not so long ago she would have sneered at the hairstyle, self-con-

sciously kept in place with hairspray, designer-set into perfection. She would have laughed at the girlish tight clothes. And she would have heaped scorn on the idea of a toy-boy, devoted as she was to her "political sound" husband.

Not long ago she would have proclaimed — as indeed she did — that women should be allowed to grow old gracefully: "We've got to make friends with our wrinkles and sags and grey hairs."

Guru

But this is a brand new Fonda. She calls it a "public evolution," but one close friend said: "She just got bored with the Joan of Arc bit." The feminist, who pronounced herself agast at "These women who have been nipped and tuckered and injected and peeled to within an inch of their shiny taut lives," is said to have paid a recent visit to Dr. Frank Kramer, the best facial plastic surgeon in Beverly Hills to have her own wrinkles and sags hoisted and her lower and upper eyelids rejuvenated to the tune of some \$30,000. So much for growing old gracefully!

The campaigner for women's dignity, the exercise guru who told us only hard work could make hard bodies, and said she could spot an artificially inflated breast a mile away, reportedly has also had her own somewhat diminished assets pumped up to starlet size by Dr. Norman Leaf, also of Beverly Hills, and has been displaying them proudly ever since.

A new softer hairstyle created by Jose Eber, Hollywood's hottest crisper, a vastly different use of make-up and a penchant for the clothes of Milan designer

Gianni Versace have helped to recreate the Fonda image, first spotted and exploited by Roger Vadim all those years ago.

This is not the Jane Fonda who for years fought the Hollywood establishment and constantly rowed with her dear father Henry. She has a new found obsession with youth and vigor which has apparently turned off those once near and dear to her.

While she dallies with hrat-packer Rob Lowe, estranged husband Tom Hayden, the man whom she once dreamed of propelling to the White House and into whose political campaigns she has already pumped several million dollars, is alone and confused. Hayden long ago assumed the role of her political mentor and was horrified at Fonda's return to shallowness and glitz.

But why this total change, the reversal of everything she believed in? Her change of lifestyle, looks, psychology, politics, friends, lovers?

Friends say that after it became clear that Hayden, now running for California Insurance Commissioner — a far cry from that job in the Oval Office — was never going to make the big time, Jane simply decided to concentrate her efforts instead on her own flagging career by reshaping her image.

The metamorphosis began after the commercial failure of the film *The Morning After* in which she played a drunk and looked decidedly worse for wear. She took a long look at herself, and her lifestyle, and no longer liked what she saw.

Younger actresses like Meryl Streep and Jessica Lange were stealing her Hollywood thunder. She was no longer so intense about aerobics, and she was

frankly bored with calling for revolution.

First came the changes to face and body, and in the end Hayden became a casualty. The chasm between them became unbridgeable after Jane went on television to apologise for her behaviour during the Vietnam war. The tide had really turned.

The evolution has certainly made her a lot more popular than during Vietnam, when her effigy was burned across America.

These days she regularly makes the Ten Most Admired Women in America lists in women's magazines. And that matters to her now. Imagine the Jane of the Sixties even contemplating such things.

As she sets about the serious business of rebuilding her body and her life, Jane insists she looks the way she does by working out — not ferociously as her early tapes suggested — but by gentler aerobics, by jogging and taking to the bicycle paths near her Santa Monica beach home.

Fonda, once a self-confessed anorexic and bulimic in college, says she keeps that enviable figure by not eating after 5 p.m. and drinking only "light beer."

Control

"I'm striving hard to control compulsive tendencies," she admits. "Now I want to enjoy things more, to add more moderation to my life. I'm more easy-going and not as macho as I was."

On the acting front she says she is looking for more challenging film parts. For her role opposite De Niro in a new film called *Stanley and Iris* she actually went to an acting coach. "I want to take more risks with my acting," she explains. "I want to be

dangerous again."

Only one loud hovers over her shiny new world: her upcoming divorce from Hayden who is manoeuvring to take away from their 15-year marriage 50 per cent of his wife's assets. And they are considerable.

Jane Fonda Inc. is a megabucks empire whose total earnings hover somewhere in the \$150 million range.

It's not clear whether Hayden, annual salary \$41,000, jumped or was pushed from the couple's \$3 million mansion.

But unless he can grab a fistful of Jane's dollars, his political career may be over.

If money is the mother's milk of politics, Fonda's exercise millions gave her husband enough of it to bathe in. There was no pre-nuptial agreement; pre-heated leftists don't believe in all that stuff, hence Hayden's move for the money is unhindered by legal impediments. But will Jane fight?

She may eventually have to fork out a fat settlement — insiders believe Hayden has enough on Jane to ruin her. On the other hand she may be banking on the fact that Hayden, "man of the people," might also look like something of a hypocrite going into court, flanked by high priced lawyers at \$400 an hour, to relieve his wife of a largish share of her fortune.

"It's really sad to see that partnership break up," said one of Hayden's political rivals gleefully. "They so deserved each other."

But with Jane engaged in the most extraordinary change of life it's unlikely they would have ever survived.

Tom Hayden, after all married a very different girl.

NOTARIAL WARNING Through The Notary Public Of Amman

Warner: Rabah Jum'a Al-Assar — His deputy advocate Ghaleb Ousus — Amman.

Person to be warned: Abdul Aziz Mostafa Al Bashalim — Iraqi national — of unknown place of residence.

WARNING FACTS

- 1- You are aware that you have issued to the order of my mandator the warner Rabah Jum'a Al-Assar cheque No. (244772) dated 15/8/1988 drawn on the Saudi French Bank-Sulemaniyeh branch/ Riyadh — Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the amount of three hundred thousand Saudi riyals — equivalent to forty three thousand Jordanian dinars approximately
- 2- And you are aware that you have also issued to the order of my above named mandator cheque No. (100010), dated 15/7/1988 — drawn on Midland Bank — Water Road branch — London for the amount of fifteen thousand sterling pounds, equivalent to fifteen thousand Jordanian dinars approximately.
- 3- And you are aware that you have also issued to the order of my above named mandator cheque No. 100009 dated 15/8/1988 drawn on Midland Bank — Water Road branch — London, for the amount of sixty five thousand sterling pounds, equivalent to sixty five thousand dinars approximately.
- 4- Upon presenting the above quoted cheques to the two issuing banks, the cheques were bounced to the warner with indication to contact the drawer for insufficient funds, for cheque described in Item 1. As for the other two cheques described in Items 2 & 3, the bank account was found to be closed.
- 5- As you have not paid my mandator the amount of the cheques after repeated demands, I am therefore asking you to pay my mandator Rabah Jum'a Al-Assar or myself in my office in Amman — King Hussein St., Jordan, the amount of these cheques within thirty days of the warning date. Otherwise, I am sorry to inform you that I will take the necessary legal juridical and civil actions against you to force you to pay the above-quoted amounts with legal interest as from due date of payment until date of final settlement, and to charge you with expenses & advocate fees.

He who warns is excused.



The brand new Fonda unveiled at Cannes last month.

<p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 677420</p> <p>Michael Keaton in THE SQUEEZE The comedy on a lucky streak</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Cinema ALJOUH Tel: 675571</p> <p>SILENT ASSASSINS</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Cinema PLAZA Tel: 677420</p> <p>MY TUTOR</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.</p>
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Japan rules out interest rate hikes

TOKYO (R) — Japan has no plans to raise interest rates despite rises in key rates by seven European countries and a warning by the club of rich nations that world inflation is set to soar, the Finance Minister Tatsuhiro Murayama said Friday.

He said he saw no need to change Japan's monetary policy now, despite interest rate rises in Europe on Thursday.

"We are still monitoring the effect of our own discount rate rise," he told reporters.

Japan's central bank raised its key discount rate on May 31, for the time in more than nine years, to 3.25 per cent from a record low 2.5 per cent.

The Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said in its twice-yearly economic report that inflation will rise this year and next in the 24-nation bloc and could undermine seven years of economic growth unless checked.

The OECD said the economies of the industrialised world were in better shape than at the start of the 1980s but stronger than expected growth meant inflation was now the number one concern.

Interest rate increases are a favourite government tool to choke off surging corporate and consumer spending by making

money more expensive to borrow.

The West German Bundesbank said Thursday it was raising its two key interest rates, the Lombard and discount rates, half a point to seven per cent and five per cent, respectively.

France, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria and Denmark raised rates as well.

The OECD said Japan should boost the yen to increase domestic living standards and curb a rise in its trade surplus.

It stopped short of suggesting that the Japanese central bank should raise interest rates again, but said: "The key to market confidence in the yen is the resolve of the monetary authorities to take action to keep inflation low."

It said Japanese inflation, traditionally a byword for virtual price stability, was forecast to reach 2.75 per cent next year from two per cent in 1989, boosted by higher import prices and the one-off impact of a consumption tax introduced in April. It was less than one per cent last year.

Consumer prices in May rose 2.9 per cent from a year earlier while inflation in the Tokyo area, a leading indicator for the nation as a whole, was up 3.4 per cent, the government said Friday.

An Economic Planning Agency official told reporters that prices were still basically stable, leaving aside the impact of the new sales tax.

"Almost all the impact of the consumption tax has been factored into overall prices by June," the official said.

Japan cut its broad-based trade surplus by nearly 40 per cent in May, but economists said Friday that the reduction is only temporary.

The country's current account surplus, which measures trade in goods and services, shrank to \$3.39 billion in May from \$5.57 billion a year earlier. Much of the improvement was due to soaring imports, which surged 20 per cent.

The narrowing of the surplus was welcome news for Japanese officials, who are worried about attacks on the country's trade performance at next month's economic summit in Paris.

Economists said the good times aren't likely to last.

"I'm doubtful this month's very favourable picture will continue," said Soichi Enkyo, an economist

at Bank of Tokyo.

He said that much of the improvement was due to extraordinary factors, such as 20 per cent jump in the value of oil imports, that are unlikely to be repeated.

The strong dollar also helped cut the surplus, inflating the yen value of Japan's dollar-based imports.

Kenneth Courtis, senior economist at brokerage D.B. Capital Markets (Asia), estimated that the recent rise of the dollar accounted for nearly 45 per cent of the reduction in last month's surplus.

But that too should only prove temporary. After a lag, the strong dollar will start boosting Japanese exports as the country's goods become more competitive on world markets.

"If the dollar stays strong, later in the year the Japanese have got to take advantage of the Christmas present they're being given this summer," Courtis said.

He also saw troubles in the longer term for those trying to rein in Japan's competitive corporations.

Finance ministry figures published Friday showed that Japanese companies invested some \$4.6 billion abroad in plant, equipment and land last month. That was up sharply from \$2.9 billion in April.

By contrast, foreign firms invested a meagre \$100 million in Japan.

"Japan is taking the game into its competitors' home markets," Courtis said.

Some economists are hoping that production from the overseas factories the Japanese are setting up will replace exports from Japan. Others are not so sure and wonder whether it will be foreign producers who will feel the pinch.

The ministry's figures showed Japan is investing an increasing amount of its excess cash overseas in factories, land and other "hard" assets, rather than in foreign paper, such as stocks and bonds.

Perhaps that is just as well, for the data also indicate Japanese investors were slow to catch on to the shift in currency market sentiment in favour of the dollar over the last few months.

Japanese net purchases of foreign, mostly U.S. bonds, actually fell last month, to \$7.1 billion from \$11.3 billion in April as the dollar rose sharply.

Currency dealers said European investors seemed to be the first to capitalise on the shift in sentiment in favour of the dollar on expectations that the U.S. economy was in for a soft landing, avoiding both recession and higher inflation.

The Japanese only imitated them.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

ACC businessmen to meet in August

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of federations of chambers of commerce and industry in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) states will meet in Amman in August to discuss issues pertaining to setting up joint projects to be financed by the private sector. They will review the steps taken so far to establish a general secretariat for the chambers of commerce and industry in these countries. Chairman of the ACC chambers of industry and commerce, have decided in their first meeting in Amman last May to set up a higher council for these chambers within a period of three months and charged Amman Chamber of Industry with acting as general secretariat for the council, pending the formation of the council.

Top DHL managers meet in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Top financial managers of DHL, the world's largest international air express company, held their annual conference at the Amman Marriott Hotel on 21st and 22nd June. Some 30 senior DHL Middle East and worldwide executives met and reviewed financial operations, planning procedures, staff training and new business developments.

Cypriots want EC membership

NICOSIA (R) — The Cyprus parliament has called on the government to apply for full European Community (EC) membership this year, saying this would end the 15-year-old division of the island. "The spirit and principles prevalent in the Community are conducive to a settlement," member of parliament Yiannakis Matsis told Reuters after the house had approved a resolution. The communist Akel Party opposed the proposal arguing that membership would affect the island's non-aligned policy and describing the EC as "the Mecca of monopolies." The Cyprus government has decided in principle to apply for full membership but has not said when. Cyprus and the EC are already linked by an association agreement signed in 1972. In January 1988 they began a customs union which would eliminate tariffs and quotas within 15 years.

W. Germany freezes aid for China

BONN (AP) — West Germany has frozen more than 200 million marks (\$100 million) in economic development aid to China as a result of the recent military assault on demonstrators in Beijing, the government has said. "In view of the bloody events in China we have indefinitely frozen all current (development) contacts at the highest political levels," said Hans-Peter Reppik of the federal ministry for economic cooperation. Reppik said the signing of a protocol on future development cooperation and a newly approved 220 million marks (about \$110 million) already earmarked for programme with China also were frozen. He said China had received 290 million marks (\$145 million) in non-repayable technical assistance from West Germany since 1982.

Japan's jobless rate stands at 2.4%

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stood at 2.4 per cent in May. The rate has hovered at 2.3-2.4 per cent since December 1988, said the statistic bureau of the prime minister's office. The number of jobless fell 60,000 from a year earlier to a total of 1.5 million during the month, it said. The number of employed in May totalled 62.1 million, up 1.02 million from a year earlier, according to the statistics. The number of employed has increased by more than 800,000 every month since November 1987, except for January 1989, when it grew by 770,000, the bureau said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, July 1, 1989		Swiss franc	337.3	340.7
Central Bank official rates		French franc	85.3	86.2
		Japanese yen (for 100)	392.3	396.1
		Dutch guilder	257.0	259.0
		Swedish crown	83.1	84.0
		Italian lira (for 100)	40.0	40.4
		Belgian franc (for 10)	136.0	142.0
U.S. dollar	565.3	571.3		
Pound Sterling	876.8	885.6		
Deutschmark	289.6	292.5		

Yugoslav inflation hits 650%

BELGRADE (R) — Prime Minister Ante Markovic, fighting an uphill battle to rescue Yugoslavia's economy, has suffered a blow with official data showing annual inflation rocketed to more than 650 per cent in June.

The Federal Bureau of Statistics said prices rose by 50.6 per cent points to a record 652.2 per cent compared with 601.6 per cent annual inflation in May. In June last year, inflation stood at 175.5 per cent.

The figures provided ammunition for critics of Markovic in the federal parliament and in Yugoslavia's six republics. They contend that he has done nothing to protect living standards since he took office in March.

"If it is true that inflation leads to a country's collapse, then either the premier and his government are genuinely unaware

of the colossal problems or they are deliberately closing their eyes to them," the Belgrade newspaper Politika Ekspres said.

Yugoslavia is also saddled with at least 16 per cent unemployment, a foreign debt of about \$20 billion, the lowest living standards since the late 1960s and a currency which loses value almost every day.

The dinar was quoted Friday at more than 17,200 to the dollar, compared with 14,300 a month ago and 2,300 a year ago. Accounting has turned into a nightmare and economists say a currency reform seems certain if inflation continues.

According to an opinion poll published in June by the Zagreb Centre for Marketing Research,

more than two-thirds of Yugoslav households say their salaries are not sufficient to cover basic living

costs.

Miners, textile workers, dockers, teachers and others have gone on strike this year. The stoppages have usually been short because employers have quickly conceded wage demands.

Critics of Markovic say this proves the failure of his economic strategy. He has rejected government curbs on wages and prices, saying companies must learn to discipline themselves to avoid bankruptcy.

Markovic's predecessor, Branko Mikulic, was ousted in a parliamentary revolt over his economic policies. He was the first Yugoslav prime minister to suffer this fate since the 1945 communist takeover.

"Parliament has learned how to flex its muscles. The honeymoon for Markovic is over," a Yugoslav official said.

ECOWAS appeals for unity, money

OUAGADOUGOU (R) — A summit of the world's poorest group of countries ended Friday with calls for further economic integration and for money to run its organisation.

"The non-payment of contributions and accumulation of arrears constitutes one of the biggest obstacles to the development of our community," Togo's President Gnassingbe Eyadema said in a speech at the end of the 12th summit of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

ECOWAS, established in 1975 to promote trade and economic

integration, groups of 16 Anglophone and Francophone states which range from oil-rich Nigeria to impoverished desert countries like Mauritania and Mali.

The community's secretariat, which estimated arrears at \$84 million, warned at the summit in the capital of Burkina Faso that it might run out of money to complete new buildings.

The final communiqué suggested looking outside the region for capital to pump up the ECOWAS development fund, now capitalised at about \$500 million. The communiqué affirmed

ECOWAS support for the rights of citizens to cross borders and urged member states to establish commissions to review complaints.

The communiqué said West African states must "take all necessary measures to revitalise and intensify their own integration process" to meet the challenge of European Community plans for a free internal market.

The summit set Jan. 1 to begin ECOWAS's first phase in eliminating of tariffs on manufactured goods, covering 26 items from eight member states.

Zambia devalues kwacha by 37.5%

LUSAKA (R) — Zambia has devalued its currency by 37.5 per cent and postponed this year's independence anniversary celebrations as part of a series of measures to tackle economic problems.

Announcing the measures Friday night, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said the value of the kwacha had dropped with

immediate effect to 16 to one U.S. dollar from 10.

The kwacha was last devalued in November last year, when its value fell to 10 to the dollar from eight.

Kaunda, in a televised broadcast to the nation, called on Zambians to brace themselves for more hard work during what he called a difficult period facing

their country.

He said this year's celebrations of the 25th anniversary of independence would be postponed until 1990. "This will enable us to throw into the battle all that we have," the president said.

Zambia, the former British colony of Northern Rhodesia, became independent in October, 1964.

India-Jordan joint ventures total \$1.14b

NEW DELHI (Petra) — A number of Indian private sector companies have concluded joint ventures with two Jordanian companies to set up two projects in Jordan, costing \$1.1 billion.

The Indian news agency Press Trust of India (PTI) has said that other Indian companies have concluded a contract worth \$40 million to set up a textile factory in Jordan.

PTI said that an Indian business delegation visited Jordan in June and signed an agreement of understanding with Jordanian companies. The news agency added that the three projects do not involve hard currency funding at a large scale, since the Indian companies will be providing the equipment and machines needed for the three projects.

Chairman of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry Friday urged Indian businessmen to enter the Arab markets which have potentials for industrialisation. PTI quoted him as saying that chemical and fertiliser industries will be set up in both Jordan and Iraq.

Gold loses glitter

LONDON (R) — Gold is no longer the safe haven for investors when the world suddenly seems in turmoil. It rose a paltry \$10 when Chinese troops brutally ended pro-democracy demonstrations in Peking's Tiananmen Square.

This was one conclusion drawn last week when the who's who of the gold industry met in Lugano, Switzerland, to discuss the outlook for what is one of mankind's oldest and best-loved investments.

But gold might still glitter in the market place if consumers take up the slack left by investors and buy jewellery, delegates believed.

"If the '70s were the era of the gold investor and the '80s the gold miner, then maybe the '90s could become the era of the gold consumer," said Brian Parker, deputy manager of the World Gold Council's jewellery division.

Contrast the reaction of investors after the June 6 upheaval in Peking with January 1980, after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan and the Iranians held U.S.

hostages in Tehran. Gold prices more than doubled to \$850 an ounce in a scramble for a safe investment. There was a fever for bullion unmatched in recent history.

But last month, when in China the government of one quarter of the world's population brutally snuffed out a movement for more democracy, gold rose just \$10 an ounce, then slowly fell back.

Gold has fallen over \$80 an ounce since June last year, standing at \$371.15 at Friday's fix by leading bullion houses.

One reason, the experts in Lugano believed, is the lure of the dollar, buoyed this year by relatively high U.S. interest rates and good returns on American equities.

The fall has been fuelled by selling, resulting from gold loans where mining companies borrow gold against future production and sell on the spot market.

Interest rates on borrowed gold are traditionally lower than on cash from banks, so the companies can quickly turn the borrowed metal into cash.

George, Milling-Stanley, of Consolidated Gold Fields PLC (Consolid) and one of the most respected analysts, said gold could oscillate in a band of \$350 to \$500 over the next three years, with real-term prices now at their lowest since 1979.

Demand has blossomed over the last 10 years and jewellery offset was up by almost 30 per cent in 1988 to 1,484 tonnes. Total demand by manufacturers, as opposed to those hoarding the metal for investment, was a record 1,844 tonnes, Consolid said.

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A Democratic Turnhalle Alliance worker demonstrating the party's campaign sign for potential voters at a rally in northern Namibia.

Namibia election campaign begins

WINDHOEK (R) — The Namibian election campaign officially began Saturday, marking another tentative step in the South African-ruled territory's transition to independence.

The Pretoria-backed administration said voter registration offices would open Monday under United Nations' supervision. Political parties hoping to present candidates for the election should also register, a spokesman said.

July 1 was specified as the formal starting date for the campaign in the U.N.-sponsored timetable leading to the territory's independence.

The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), tipped as election victors by most observers, will kick off the campaign in earnest Sunday when it holds a rally in Windhoek's main black township.

SWAPO, whose guerrillas waged a 23-year bush war against South African rule, would release the main points of its election manifesto

at the rally, party officials said. The start of the election campaign marks an important milestone in Namibia's year-long preparations for independence which got off to a disastrous start on April 1 when SWAPO staged an armed incursion from Angola.

The ensuing battles with South African-led forces cost more than 300 lives and brought the peace plan close to collapse before diplomats negotiated a truce.

The independence operation has since got back on track, and U.N. officials are optimistic that independence day will be some time next April.

South Africa agreed to decolonise Namibia in exchange for the withdrawal from Angola of 50,000 Cuban troops drafted in to support the Luanda government. The U.S.-brokered agreement was signed in December in New York by South Africa, Cuba and Angola.

Communists join forces with conservatives

Greek political crisis resolved

ATHENS (Agencies) — The Communist led alliance of leftist parties announced Saturday they would support a conservative candidate to head a coalition government bringing to an end a political crisis that had gripped the nation.

The agreement between the conservative New Democracy Party and the Communist-dominated Coalition of the Left and Progress was reached after party leaders met to hammer out their differences.

The historical alliance comes 40 years after the Communists were defeated in a civil war by U.S.-backed government forces.

Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the new Democracy Party and Harilaos Florakis of the leftist coalition, conferred with President Christos Sartzetakis for an hour and told him that an agreement had been reached that would permit a coalition to win a majority vote in the 300-member unicameral parliament.

Departing the meeting, Florakis said he told the president that his leftist coalition will throw its weight behind an interim government led by New Democracy parliamentarian, Tzannis Tzannetakis.

Besieged by a supportive crowd as he left the presidential palace, Mitsotakis said that Tzannetakis was to be sworn in later Saturday.

The conservative-leftist coalition ends the political deadlock that evolved after general elections June 18 ended in a hung parliament.

The two camps united around a single objective: lifting immunity and prosecuting outgoing Socialist ministers accused of involvement in a series of multi-million-dollar financial scandals.

Florakis told reporters: "We have decided to support a government under Tzannis Tzannetakis which will be for a short period of time and its sole purpose will be cleansing."

Mitsotakis of the new Democracy Party has said on one occasion of wrongdoing should be spared and anyone suspected of



New alliance... Greek conservative New Democracy Party leader Constantine Mitsotakis (left) and Communist Party leader Harilaos Florakis shake hands

involvement would be prosecuted, including outgoing Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

Greece has been in political crisis since inconclusive elections June 18, with the two main parties, the conservatives and the socialists, vying for the support of the power-broker Communists.

Communist support gives New Democracy an absolute majority in the 300-seat parliament.

Both Mitsotakis and Florakis said the government would be an interim solution, for about three months, with the sole aim of lifting immunity for Socialist ministers and investigating allegations of wrongdoing. New elections would then be called.

It was not clear whether the Communists would be given ministries in a coalition government, or whether they would simply support a minority conservative government in parliament.

Mitsotakis cleared the way for the deal Friday when he renounced his claim to be prime minister and put forward the name of Tzannetakis, 62, a former army officer and public works minister.

With New Democracy's 145 seats, their combined strength with the Communists is 173 seats.

COLUMN 800000

Robbers do it backwards

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP) — Two holdup men had it all backwards. While most robbers take money, this pair left some behind. Authorities said men entered a grocery store early Tuesday and picked up a case of soda and a gallon of milk. Clerk Marion John Russman rang up the merchandise, which totalled a little more than \$7. One man handed Russman \$10, then pulled a gun, demanding money from the cash register. Russman refused and slammed the drawer shut. The robbers fired and fled, and the clerk was slightly wounded in the head and ear. Later, Russman told police he was not afraid because he knew the weapon was only a pellet gun. Russman said the robbers left their \$10 behind. He kept it.

Loss on both counts

LONDON (R) — West German Davis Cup player Carl-Uwe Steeb has been fined \$500 for using an audible obscenity during his second-round defeat by American Scott Davis at the Wimbledon tennis championships Friday.

Amy Irving files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actress Amy Irving has filed for divorce from filmmaker Steven Spielberg. The superior court petition cited irreconcilable differences in requesting an end to the 3 and 1/2-year marriage. Irving's petition, filed by attorney Norman Dolin, said a written agreement has disposed of the couple's property. She seeks child support and joint custody of the couple's 4-year-old son, Max. Spielberg and Irving announced in April their intention to divorce. "Our mutual decision, however difficult, has been made in a spirit of caring, and our friendship remains both personal and professional," their joint statement said. The couple was married in November 1985 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Irving was nominated for the 1983 Academy Award for best supporting actress for her role in "Yentl," and recently won acclaim in the film "Crossing Delancey." Spielberg has produced some of Hollywood's most successful films, including "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

7 million children under 'bondage' — South Asian version of slavery

NEW DELHI (R) — More than seven million children work as slaves in South Asia, some of them kidnapped and branded into bondage to live a life worse than animals, delegates to a conference on child servitude said Friday.

"Children between the age of six and 12 have been kidnapped and taken to the carpet industry," said Swami Agnivesh, who chairs the Bonded Labour Liberation Front, the group organising the five-day meeting in New Delhi.

"They have scars from being branded with red hot irons," Agnivesh told the conference which included delegates from

India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Former Chief Justice of India P.N. Bhagwati called them "non-beings, exiles of civilisation, living a life worse than that of animals."

"Animals at least are free to roam about as they like or can plunder or graze food when they are hungry," he said.

Children freed from bondage also attended the meeting. Generations of families are sometimes bonded to an employer to pay off a debt that keeps growing as interest keeps compounding on the loan, said group member Kailash Satyarthi.

"These poor people cannot get out of the vicious circle of indebtedness for generations and generations together," he said.

"The children belonging to bonded labourers are born slaves," Satyarthi said. "Millions of such enslaved children have no recognition either as child labourers or bonded labourers."

"It is in-built in the system that they have to work for their (parents') master without any wages," he said.

Agnivesh said international aid organisations believe there are at least 75 million children working under the age of 14 in South Asia and about 10 per

cent are in bondage.

India abolished the bonded labour system in 1976 but Bhagwati said the law does not adequately cover "indebtedness and other economic compulsions."

More than 100,000 child slaves work in the carpet-weaving industry alone, one of India's big foreign exchange earners.

Children also work in bondage cutting and polishing gems, making bricks, chipping stones in quarries, hawking newspapers, picking rags, working as domestic servants and tea boys, rolling cigarettes and making matches.

Machine keeps Marcos alive

HONOLULU (AP) — Former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos was "a little better" following surgery to remove a donor kidney implanted five years ago, his wife Imelda said. But doctors said his condition remained very critical.

"He's a little better. Just so-so. Still very critical," Mrs. Marcos said after she left the hospital late Friday.

But assistant hospital administrator Eugene Tiwanak warned against saying the ousted leader's conditions had improved.

"The doctors feel it's too soon to say there has been an overall improvement in his condition as a result of the surgery," said Tiwanak, adding that Marcos was listed in very critical condition and his prognosis for recovery remained poor.

Ferdinand Marcos was being kept alive Saturday with kidney dialysis treatments following

Thursday's operation to remove a donated kidney he received in 1984.

Marcos, whose own two kidneys do not function, must now undergo dialysis treatments last three to four hours each day, Tiwanak said Friday in St. Francis Medical Centre.

The operation was performed to remove the source of a life-threatening fever of up to 104F (40C) degrees. Doctors believed the fever was caused by Marcos' rejection of the donated kidney.

Tiwanak said Marcos could survive indefinitely with the use of a dialysis machine, which performs the functions of a kidney by removing impurities from the blood.

Humans have a pair of kidneys, which extract water and waste products from the blood and excrete them as urine through the bladder. One kidney must function properly for survival without

dialysis.

Marcos also was breathing with the help of a respirator and other life-support equipment, Tiwanak said.

Marcos suffered liver failure Wednesday, as well as heart, lung and kidney failure in May. He has remained in the hospital since being admitted Jan. 15.

One of Marcos' doctors, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the exiled leader's condition has generally worsened over the past five months.

"It's like a stair step," the doctor said. "He gets worse, levels off, gets worse and levels off, but sooner or later he'll fall off the steps."

Another doctor, also speaking on the condition of anonymity, called Marcos' survival remarkable.

"He really does have a tremendous will to live," the doctor said.

Pravda: Souther in same league as Philby, Blake

MOSCOW (R) — Pravda said Saturday that former KGB agent Glenn Michael Souther had given Moscow details of U.S. plans in the event of nuclear war and said he was in the same league as master spies Kim Philby and George Blake.

In an article praising the U.S. naval intelligence worker turned KGB major, the Communist Party daily suggested he had been disappointed by aspects of Soviet life after defecting in 1986 and said he was prone to depression.

However, it added that Souther, who committed suicide last week at the age of 32, had written a final note to friends in the KGB saying he never regretted what he had done and asking to be buried in his KGB uniform.

"Michael Souther did everything to help the forces of peace," Pravda said. "He had access to the most precious documents uncovering plans of the U.S. engagement in nuclear war against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries."

"He occupies a place in the line of KGB intelligence workers to which belong such outstanding soldiers of the invisible front as Kim Philby and George Blake," the newspaper added.

"Thanks to them... the atom

bombs did not fall on Soviet cities."

The article, putting Souther's activities on a par with that of the two British KGB spies who caused major damage to Western intelligence in the 1940s and 1950s, was the latest in a series of revelations begun with a simple press obituary Tuesday.

A U.S. Defence Department spokesman has admitted Souther was under investigation even before he defected to the Soviet Union in 1986 but said it was still not known if he had given damaging secrets to the Soviet Union.

"We have no idea whether any sensitive information was passed and, if so, what it was," Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams told reporters in Washington Thursday. "There is damage assessment going on."

Williams also confirmed a report in the New York Times that Souther's first wife, an Italian, told the navy as long ago as in 1981 that he was spying for Moscow. The Soviet press said he later married a Russian, by whom he had an 18-month old daughter.

Souther, whose defection became widely known last July when he appeared on Soviet television requesting political

asylum, worked at one of the largest U.S. navy bases, where he had access to "space intelligence," Pravda said.

It said Souther, who resigned from the U.S. navy and joined the reservists in mid-1982, also specialised in intelligence photography and was the personal photographer of the commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet serving in the Mediterranean.

He decided to flee to the Soviet Union after the FBI summoned him for questioning about one of his friends.

"There were no grounds for serious concern, but having weighed all the circumstances and calculated all the possibilities with us, he agreed there was still a danger and decided to leave the United States," it said.

In its account, Pravda suggested that disillusionment with the day-to-day reality of Soviet life may have contributed to the eventual suicide of Souther, who assumed the name of Mikhail Yevgenyevich Orlov.

"Of course, when he arrived on Soviet soil, he did not meet all the things he had dreamed of," Pravda said. "For example, he failed to understand how it is possible to go shopping and not find the things you are looking for."

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Estenson

QUESTIONABLE TACTICS

By Olive Dunn

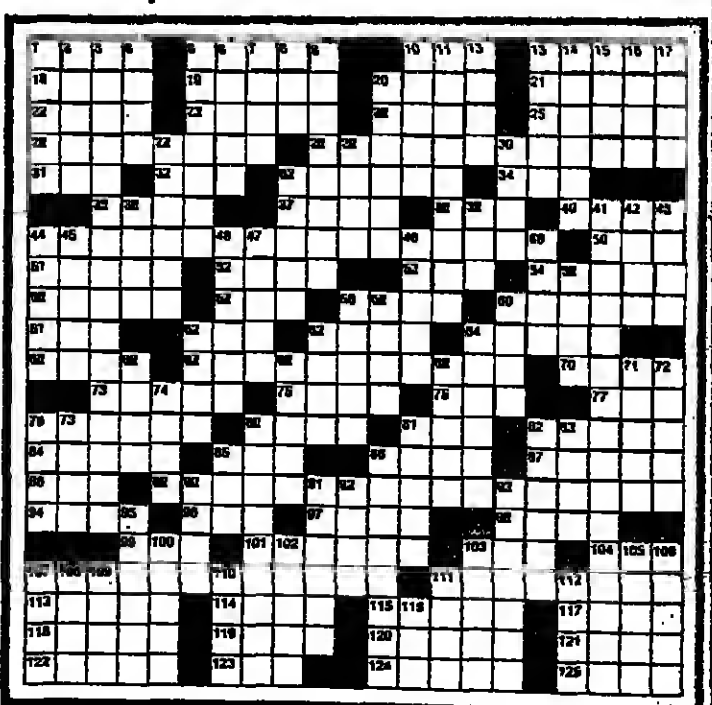
- ACROSS
- 1 Assignment
 - 2 Counters
 - 3 Flour-de-
 - 4 Pertume from
 - 5 Nautilus word
 - 6 Scorching
 - 7 Encamp
 - 8 Fine-grained rock
 - 9 Plant
 - 10 West
 - 11 Spin
 - 12 Rite cake
 - 13 Rhet
 - 14 Obvious
 - 15 Is the carpenter about to -?
 - 16 Assembly
 - 17 Relief carvings
 - 18 Sea fyer
 - 19 Lure
 - 20 True
 - 21 Newton's title
 - 22 Bard of yore
 - 23 Is the butcher
 - 24 On a -?
 - 25 Literary collection
 - 26 On one's
 - 27 Flaw, architect
 - 28 On one's
 - 29 Venus' love
 - 30 Seligler's prey
 - 31 Corral
 - 32 Chafed
 - 33 Chafed
 - 34 Stomped
 - 35 His Gardner
 - 36 Seed covering
 - 37 Nucleus group
 - 38 Increase
 - 39 Is the teacher anxious to -?
 - 40 Painter Bonheur
 - 41 Pinnacle
 - 42 Tip the hat
 - 43 Is the draftman ready to -?
 - 44 Let's vessels
 - 45 Cinders
 - 46 Soiler and skimmer
 - 47 Sports org.
 - 48 Favorite
 - 49 Venus' love
 - 50 Seligler's prey
 - 51 Corral
 - 52 Chafed
 - 53 Stomped
 - 54 His Gardner
 - 55 Seed covering
 - 56 Nucleus group
 - 57 Increase
 - 58 Is the teacher anxious to -?
 - 59 Painter Bonheur
 - 60 Pinnacle

- DOWN
- 1 The report
 - 2 Word on some posters
 - 3 Is the son-artist able to -?
 - 4 Sausage
 - 5 Shakespearean tragedy
 - 6 Grown-up
 - 7 Southwestern adage
 - 8 Sea's gift
 - 9 Some adjectives
 - 10 Restrained
 - 11 Constant
 - 12 Printer's term
 - 13 Fall flower
 - 14 Spines
 - 15 Edible root
 - 16 Choir member
 - 17 Coral ridge
 - 18 Baseball hit
 - 19 Senor's friends
 - 20 Indian maid
 - 21 Release the
 - 22 Cupidity
 - 23 Stake
 - 24 Church
 - 25 Is the farmer inclined to -?
 - 26 Step -
 - 27 Puppeteer
 - 28 Resolving ad
 - 29 Offspring ones
 - 30 Personification of fate
 - 31 Narcotic plant
 - 32 Compact
 - 33 Singer lives
 - 34 The money
 - 35 Manoeuvre
 - 36 market
 - 37 Kasta's output
 - 38 Latin abbr.
 - 39 Release the
 - 40 As one desires
 - 41 Modern's land
 - 42 Western
 - 43 Eroticness
 - 44 Fish - sail
 - 45 Pile
 - 46 Factor
 - 47 The most
 - 48 Unwritten
 - 49 City on the Rhine
 - 50 Stress
 - 51 Lie, measure
 - 52 Kind of jacket
 - 53 - kingdom
 - 54 Baseball term
 - 55 Courage
 - 56 Hamstring
 - 57 Piled up
 - 58 32 ft. cathedral city
 - 59 Originate
 - 60 As one desires
 - 61 Modern's land
 - 62 Western
 - 63 Eroticness
 - 64 Fish - sail
 - 65 Pile
 - 66 Factor
 - 67 The most
 - 68 Unwritten
 - 69 City on the Rhine
 - 70 Stress
 - 71 Lie, measure
 - 72 Kind of jacket
 - 73 - kingdom
 - 74 Baseball term
 - 75 Courage

Diagramless

21 X 21, By James Warwick

- ACROSS
- 1 Vague
 - 2 Elec. unit
 - 3 Shorten a
 - 4 Jail
 - 5 Shoe bottom
 - 6 In the
 - 7 Tally for granted
 - 8 Formerly called
 - 9 Disperses
 - 10 Works in verse
 - 11 Style
 - 12 Classified items
 - 13 Inspired with
 - 14 Under
 - 15 SH shoe
 - 16 Lanchester
 - 17 Can-all
 - 18 Or
 - 19 Use (direct)
 - 20 Repeat sign
 - 21 Kingle
 - 22 Jowled
 - 23 husband
 - 24 Palm
 - 25 American
 - 26 pipe
 - 27 City on the Rhine
 - 28 Oregan's capital
 - 29 Kind of jacket
 - 30 - kingdom
 - 31 Baseball term
 - 32 Courage
 - 33 Cleverness
 - 34 Alt. ruler
 - 35 Church part
 - 36 Campus mil. op.
 - 37 War
 - 38 Confidence
 - 39 Worker in a lab
 - 40 Nurse
 - 41 Wine city
 - 42 Run of films
 - 43 Change of films
 - 44 Sch. subj.
 - 45 Reflected
 - 46 Bile
 - 47 Leap a little
 - 48 Morse or
 - 49 Dazzling
 - 50 Sorrow
 - 51 Killed
 - 52 Call it -
 - 53 Dutch commune
 - 54 Writer Daughton



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Keep accurate accurately calculates insurance risk and recommends appropriate premium.
2. How can my bank account be consistently overdrawn when I have many unused checks? Really?
3. My body duly comes back after I've taken some time off, but my brain is still on vacation.
4. A flag that had nothing on its blank field was known as a barren banner.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. YSTE KOGS HOPE INTMNTS GUSTA ULLASP
SYSTEMISTS VLT HIS KNOU VOUS. —By Lois R. Jones
2. XC VRWC MKEWN MKW FIXNRZ "NJVIS" VO
SREYARWN" BCEFRWS DDVYV DYMK JERE.
AIBOMZ QXCEN BCS MKWXI JXYWN BRXQV.
—By Gordon Miller
3. CLU FOYUFC TIUOR TE CS IS AIHR ALTRU
ISTYK KSSL. —By Barbara J. Rapp
4. P-LEBN TYNJPV ELLPATQ YPLNYT
WEUUNPQ WSAJFALNSA EISEYU WSEWEY.
—By Rust Ireland

